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1743.

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Some remarkable providences as
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Streatham in New Hampshire in
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in the Sixteenth Year of the reign
of George the Second of great Britain
King &c

Samuel Lane

A JOURNAL
for
THE YEARS 1739–1803

By
SAMUEL LANE
of
STRATHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE

EDITED BY
CHARLES LANE HANSON

CONCORD, N. H.
NEW HAMPSHIRE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

1937

The printing of this Diary was inspired by the following legacy in the will of Anna M. Lane, of Stratham, New Hampshire:

“I give and bequeath to the New Hampshire Historical Society the sum of Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.) said sum to be used for the publishing of the ‘Lane Diary’.”



PREFACE

Samuel Lane began to earn his living as a farmer, but at the age of twenty-five declared farming was no longer his "principal business." He was a farmer, a tanner, a shoemaker, and a surveyor. For sixty-five years he kept a Journal. On sheets of paper six and a half inches by four he allowed himself a page a month, arranging his material in the form of an almanac. Each year he wrote on the front cover something similar to the wording of the frontispiece.

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In 1738 he may have been hinting at his ambition to become a student when he wrote on the front cover:

by me: Samuel Lane
(not) Master of Arts (nor yet)
Student in Physick & Astronomy.

At any rate he was interested all his life in education. His reading habits showed it, and his recording such items as that in the eventful year 1783 "'tis supposed that the Lands Col. Phillips has given to the Academy in Exeter is worth 25,000 Dollars"; and that in 1798 the newspapers said there were in the United States "7 universities, 16 colleges, and 60 academies."

At the end of each year he would write a summary of the principal events of the year, with brief comments. But apparently he wished to leave behind him something more readable than his Journal, which consisted largely of matters ephemeral. Consequently he prepared two digests of this material, one dealing mostly with his own "proceedings and business," the other with events of more general interest. Supplementing these two digests, the editor has included from the original Journal such material as seemed most impor-

tant, and has used several other manuscripts — some prepared by Samuel, some by Samuel's son Jabez, and some by Edmund J., a grandson.

A considerable number of Samuel Lane's papers have been preserved, among them many of his day-books, now the property of the New Hampshire Historical Society. They contain careful accounts, in separate books, of the money he handled as a deacon of the church and as treasurer of the selectmen, his "Tradings & Dealings with all Persons I Deal withall."

The editor is indebted to Mrs. Richard M. Scammon of Stratham, N. H., for the loan of studies made by her late husband, and to Mrs. William P. Powell of Amherst, Mass., a great-great-granddaughter of Samuel Lane, for helpful suggestions in the preparation of the manuscript. And he is grateful to Major Otis G. Hammond, the Director of the New Hampshire Historical Society, for his coöperation in guiding the manuscript through the press and for preparing the index.

It is a pleasure also to acknowledge with thanks Mr. Charles E. L. Wingate's permission to reprint from his "Life of Paine Wingate" (published by James D. Wingate, Mercury Printing Co., Medford, Mass., 1930) extracts from several letters written by Judge Wingate to Samuel Lane. Invaluable for reference have been the "Lane Genealogies," especially Vol. I, William Lane of Boston, Mass., 1645, by Rev. Jacob Chapman and Rev. James H. Fitts, Exeter, N. H. Printed by John Templeton, The News-Letter Press, 1891. Vol. II, William Lane of Dorchester, 1635, and Vol. III, English Family, 1542-1758, etc., were compiled by James Hill Fitts and printed at the News-Letter Press in 1897 and 1902 respectively.

This edition of the Journal should interest not only the numerous descendants of William Lane, who was

living in Boston in the middle of the 17th century, but many general readers, for it shows how a man grappled two hundred years ago with problems which are still puzzling us. It gives picture after picture of New England life in the 18th century.

The farmer of today who reads these pages, no matter how trying he finds the weather, will not covet the farmer-diarist's distressing droughts and dry wells. Nor, pestered as he is by bugs, worms, moths and beetles, would he prefer the onslaughts of worms herein described. And he will cheerfully admit that his own well fed cows present a striking contrast to the poorly fed survivors of the old-time winters.

Today's business man, perplexed by the changing of his dollar, can sympathize with his predecessor who saw a dollar worth a pound and afterward worth seven pounds; who saw paper money sink about three-quarters of its value within a year, and a paper dollar become "about as good as a Copper was before the War."

All who read of the deaths, mostly of children, caused by the malignant "throat distemper" will congratulate themselves on the disappearance of that scourge; and those who learn of the havoc wrought by such dreaded diseases as small pox, diphtheria, and scarlet fever may well rejoice over the progress that has been made in preventive medicine.

Numerous matters of interest to all thoughtful citizens of today may be found in these records: floods that did "abundance of Damage throughout the country"; the unemployment situation; the appreciation of cider, rum, tobacco, etc.; a glimpse of a private library of some value; a decided effort to keep the government from appropriating unwarranted powers; frequent references to the wars, especially to the Revolutionary War; and the ebbing and flowing of religious life.

A traveler on the main road from Exeter to Portsmouth, in going through Stratham Center, turns sharply to the right at the foot of a hill in order to avoid the road to Newfields. It was on this hill, near the pond, that Samuel Lane built his house, and the fine old colonial house now standing on the site was built by his son Jabez in 1806.

In the old churchyard farther up the hill to the south of the Jabez Lane estate were buried Samuel Lane, his first wife, Mary James, his second wife, Rachel Colcord, and four generations of their descendants. When Jabez had set the stones at the graves of his parents, he charged his children to keep the stones erect as long as they should live. One of the children, Charles, told his son, John William, of this, and the latter not only took it as an injunction to do likewise but was impelled to search for the older graves of the family at Hampton. His discovery in the old graveyard there of Deacon Joshua Lane's grave led to the erection of a substantial monument in 1888 to William Lane of Boston, his wife, Mary Brewer, and four children; William Lane of Boston and Hampton, his wife, Sarah Webster, and seven children; and Deacon Joshua of Hampton and his wife, Bathsheba Robie, and sixteen children, all of whose names are on the monument.

The "John William" just referred to was Rev. John W. Lane, pastor of the Second Congregational church and trustee of Hopkins Academy, both of Hadley, Mass., for more than thirty-three years.

A son of John William — Wallace R. Lane, Esquire, of Chicago — is now the owner of the Journal and of the Samuel Lane estate; including the house built on it by Jabez Lane in 1806.

The editor is a great-great-grandson of Samuel Lane.

Cambridge, Massachusetts.

C. L. H.

SAMUEL LANE

In 1650 there lived in Boston, Massachusetts, a cordwainer by the name of William Lane. A son of his, also named William, who was a tanner, left Boston to settle in Hampton, New Hampshire, in 1686. A son of the tanner, known widely as Deacon Joshua, tanner and shoemaker, was killed by lightning on his own doorstep, half a mile north of the present railroad station in Hampton; yet he lived to see fourteen of his sixteen children become "useful members of society," and to welcome sixty grandchildren. One of the fourteen children was Samuel.

Although Samuel "was not a large figure in history as history is written," he "was an intelligent observer" and "did the common things in life so persistently well as to make his life remarkable." * He certainly is to be commended for his persistence year after year in recording occurrences of importance to him and his contemporaries. In these few extracts from one of the manuscripts he has left we note the humble beginning, the preparation for his work as shoemaker, tanner, surveyor, farmer, and landowner:

I . . was born at Hampton the Sixth Day of October, 1718, old stile.

* * *

1722-23. I began to go to school to Mr. Wingate.

1727-28. I began to Learn to make Shoes.

1733-34. I began to try to Learn my Self to Tan, only with 4 mean Sheepskins — and my Father Seeing I could make Lether, let me Tan Some for him the next year.

1734-35. This year I Taned 27 Sheepskins, 2 Calfskins & 1 Dog Skin. — The calfskins being my Fathers, his Currier sent

* Col. Richard M. Scammon (1859-1904) in a paper entitled "An Old Diary," first read to the Wonalancet Club of Concord, N. H., and later to the Young Men's Club of the Congregational church and the Historical Society, both of Exeter, N. H.

him word to let that Man Tan all his skins next year, that Tan'd them 2 — for they were the best Lether he had; which Encouraged me verry much.

1735–36. This year I Tan'd 1 Hide, 10 Calfskins, 2 Kips, & 33 Sheepskins in Tubbs at my Fathers Well.

1736–37. This year I went to school to Esqr. Palmer to learn to Cypher & Survey.

* * *

1738–39. This year I was out of my Time & began to make Shoes & Boots & carried them to the [Isles of] Shoals & sold them there.

1740. I measured Land for Some People at Hampton. I try'd to purchase a House Lot in several Towns, but could not obtain to my mind. — About this time, I made abundance of Horse Whips, & sold many of them by the Dozen at Portsmouth & Elsewhere.

1741. Febr. 19, I Bought a piece of land of Col. Wiggin on the North Side of his Saw Mill Pond, call'd 2 acres more or less to set a House upon — but it not suiting, I Bot of Joseph Mason. June 11 I remov'd to Stratham [a town adjoining Exeter]. June 16 my House was Raised. — July 1 my Bark House was Raised. Dec. 24. I was Married at Hampton by the Rev'd Mr. Ward Cotton to Mary James, Daughter of Benjamin James: she was born March 3rd, 1721/2.

1742. Jan. 6 I Removed my Wife and her goods to Stratham. — This spring I put down some tanpits.

When Samuel was twenty-one years old his father gave him “near 20£ old Tenr.* worth of Lether to begin with,” and boarded him for a year. After that he paid for his board and was not easy in his mind until he bought land in Stratham, and began to build a house of his own. How he secured pieces of land; how he built his house — finishing one part after another as he could afford it — then a bark house, later a bark mill and a barn; how he managed by borrowing very little money and how hard he worked to pay his debts promptly; how he became able to keep oxen, to have a clock and a watch; how his business as tanner and surveyor steadily increased, he has told us in his Journal, which he kept punctiliously.

Many of his records are of little importance now; they

* In 1739 a pound old tenor was worth about a dollar.

concern the weather, the crops, the deaths in town, the marriages, the ordinations of ministers, his dealings with his neighbors, the doings of his children; but as we read on we discover the gradual unfolding of a life that is not lightly to be dismissed. That a man who had nothing to buy his year's pork with when he began to keep house, but ran in debt for half a hog to live on, was able to give a good-sized farm to each of his three boys as they grew to manhood, and to give each of his five daughters a start in life, was an achievement in those days.

They were not altogether happy days. Indians were still hunting white men and white men were hunting Indians. The legislature of the Province of New Hampshire made the tempting offer of £50 for the scalp of an Indian — fifty times as much as the bounty on a wolf. And the danger of death was by no means remote. As late as 1744 the Stratham farmer frequently heard alarms on the Newfields side of the river to give warning that the savages were near, and noted that people were "much distressed" by them. In 1753 he added that two Indians were privately killed near Contoocook.

But the attacks of the Indians must have been mild compared with the ravages of death at this time. In 1742, when the normal number of deaths in the town was fifteen, he writes: "it was a terrible sickly Dying time with the throat Distemper the latter part of the year, so that in about five months Died in the Town above fourscore persons." Six were buried in one day, September 7, and on the 23d he records: "Fast on account of the throat Distemper." This was one of the "divine providences" which naturally enough called for a day of fasting and prayer—one of the providences which he observed and studied constantly. The deaths of the townspeople he noticed with "solemnity and

prayerfulness" and recorded with regularity for more than sixty years.

As the years rolled on he told of hardships that make recent depressions seem luxurious. He evidently tried to paint the picture as he saw it. If there was much that was black he was always ready to make the most of any rift of light that appeared on the horizon. In 1737, although many were begging for a chance to buy a quart of corn, there were beech nuts to feed the swine. In 1748, when the 25 snows allowed "scarcely any passing in Roads," the large body of snow — about 12 feet — melted "without any rain or Land flood." In 1749, when men went 50 or 60 miles into the woods to cut meadows, there were the leaves on the trees to fall back on for food for the cattle in winter. In 1752 "it wo'd make almost the hardest Heart Ach, to hear the Complaints of Multitudes of people ready to famish for want of food, beging for a handful of corn and tis sed many people in the woods stagger as they go." The summer of 1753 was "a terrible time with the Small Pox in Boston & Towns adjacent . . . [and] a verry sickly time in general the country throughout with terrible fevers, throat Distemper & fever — agues &c." 1755 was "a melancholy year on account of the War in this Land." In 1756 war was declared against France, "the Indians Destroyed many People on the Back of Virginia &c.;" and we "had a larg Army at Lake George, but Little or nothing done against our Enemies, tho' at a Vast Expense." The next year war conditions were worse, "there was a terrible Fever in many Towns as well as in this Town (and myself & wife & one child bro't low thereby)." The weather was "unwholesom," the foggy air "dull and heavy; the Sun & Moon Look Red Like Blood almost . . . & 'tis a sickly time." In 1758 came the most "difficult winter known within ten years."

Great snow storms made it hard to get firewood; hay was not to be had for £50 a load; there was an unusual amount of "Hooping Cough" among children, the "throat ail" was "mortal in Sundry Towns, and Small Pox in some places." However they "had better success in the War than in years past, both in Europe & America." In 1761 came "the most Distressing Drought ever known in this Land." Consequently 1762 was "the most Difficult and Most Remarkable year on many accounts (I believe) that was ever known in New England."*

To the story of the hardships endured that year may be added, from the Journal:

"Poor women . . . by reason of the uncommon scarcity of flax & wool . . . cannot get Employ; . . . those that are able & willing to work for their Living are obliged to be Idle, and Consequently have no income to support themselves withal."

After three more hard years 1766 brought "a Considerable Moderate open Winter . . . and as plentiful a crop of all the fruits of the Earth in general (I think) as ever I knew." There was also "great Rejoycing at the Repeal of the Stamp Act, on the 18th of March, the News of which came to us in May." It was "a general time of Health, as well as Peace & plenty," but there were "Many Complaints of the Scarcity of Money."

In spite of all these hardships the persistent farmer was working steadily toward success, and six years later, although duties laid on glass, tea, etc., had caused uneasiness and money was scarce, he raised a house for his son Samuel, and gave as his share of raising the new meeting house £850 old tenor. Other evidences of his success are occasional purchases of land. After writing of additions to his estate, he says: "but to obtain the

* See "A Brief Account of Some Remarkable Events, etc. . . ." 1762.

above additions I not only Laboured Hard at my Trades of Taning, Shoemaking &c. Night and Day but measured much Land in Many Towns [among them the town of Bow], especially in the Wilderness."

The next year, 1769, he had a setback: his beloved wife died. The loss was "irreparable" to him and his eight children.

Five years rolled by. In general the Journal continues frank and outspoken as usual, but occasionally the writer shows some reticence in his entries. Note the following:

1774. Feb. 22. I to Col . . . ds for Bords &c. got Pipe & Sydr.
 Apr. 4. I went to Epping & Col . . . ds, got Methegln & pipe & Par - p seed.
 20. C - lc . . . ds. Question — got think on't & 1 K - s.
 25. C - - ds, round by Exeter — got Nothing ag — t Person or Fam - ly.
 May 2. C - - ds, got lik'd Person well Eno'.
 9. C - - ds, invited here. g - t Encourag - t w'd. Come, told of Esqr. M.
 11. Wid. C - l - cord at my House, brot & car'd her back. got See Nothing Misl'k - d &c.
 17. C - - ds Agr - d to P . . . lish & not L - c - nce, give N - g to Dr. 3 Bds.
 23. C - ds. put off — rather g - t back.
 30. Concluded to be P . . bl . . . h'd & M d.
 June 3. Spoke f - r P - bl - ht.
 6. pretty Dull
 10. verry pleas - nt thot no m - n co'd ga - n'd her so soon.
 13. Twins
 20. She gone to Walter Wig - n - . Concluded to be mar - r - d on the 22d.

It happened that in Newmarket, on the road to Exeter, there was living at that time Mrs. Rachel Colcord (widow of Gideon), who had seven children of her own, and the father of eight celebrated February 22, 1774, by purchasing some boards of the widow. As a polite hostess she gave him a pipe and tobacco and some cider, a drink of which he apparently was very fond. On April 4 he had business in Epping, and on his way

home through Exeter made a second call on the widow, who this time gave him metheglin to drink as he smoked, and presented him with some parsnip seed. On the 20th he "popped the question." Naturally enough she must take time to think the matter over, but she ventured to give him one kiss. Five days later the suitor found it convenient to go "round by Exeter" and went home with the assurance that the considerate widow had nothing against him or his family. A week later, in the merry month of May, she admitted that she liked him well enough. The next week he invited her to call at his home; she encouraged him to hope that she would; and two days after that he took her to his home and carried her back, comforted by her admission that she had found nothing that she "misliked."

Apparently the widow had two other suitors, a squire and a doctor, but the farmer proved the most convincing, and on the 30th of May she "concluded to be published and married." Four days later they "spoke for publication," and a "pretty Dull" period was followed by the widow's handsome compliment that she had thought "no man could have gained her so soon." Three days later the only entry was "Twins." What else is that so likely to mean as "two kisses"? At any rate a week afterward they concluded to be married two days later, and on June 22, 1774, just four months after the farmer's first recorded call, he and Widow Colcord joined forces.

The Journal runs on as smoothly and steadily as before, with no indication that the additions to the family were a burden; and nine years after the marriage of Samuel and Rachel, on October 2, 1783, two of their fifteen children, his son Jabez and her daughter Eunice, became husband and wife.

Samuel Lane was more than a hard working farmer, shoemaker, tanner, and surveyor. He was a persistent

reader of “a handsome collection of valuable books.”
He has left a list of 307 of his books. Here are a few:

Dr. Mather Concerning Comets	
Bunyan's Sighs from Hell	given Mary
School of Good Manners	
Morril. Preparation for Eternity &c.	given to Susie
Gouge's Young Man's Guide	given Saml.
Whitefield's Journal	
Love's Surveying	
Bunyan's Pilgrim's Progress	given Saml.
Gordon's Grammar	
Douglass' History of America, Vol. 1	purpose for Son Saml.
Ditto Vol. 2	purpose to give to Son Joshua
Mall's History of the Martyrs, Vol. 1	given Martha
Mall's Ditto Vol. 2	given Bathsheba
Edwards on Justification	
Watts's 44 Sermons	
Bailey's Dictionary	Joshua
Cruden's Concordance of the Bible	for Son Jabez
Shaw's Justice 2 vols.	
New Hampshire Law Book	
English Grammar	
Belknap's History of N. Hampshire, Vols 1-3	
Hubbard's Indian Wars	
Constitution or Form of Government of this State	
7 Books for my grand Children viz. School of Good Manners	
7 Bibles I Bo't for my Seven Eldest Children	
Ratio Disciplinae by Dr. Mather	
Latin Dictionary	Bo't. for Jabez
Esop's Fables	
Greek Grammar	
My old Accidence	
Watts Astronomy	
Moody on the gospel way of Escaping Hell	
Robinson Crusoe	
Ansons Voyage round the World	
Bunyan's Grace Abounding &c.	to Grandson James Lane
Watts, Improvement of the Mind	for myself
Browns Dictionary, Vols 1 & 2	
History of Paul and Virginia	

He records giving Dr. Doddridge on the Religious Education of Children to four of his children, prayer books to six of them, and a Bible and several books to each daughter.

A glance at the 307 titles he has listed shows, as might

be expected, a preponderance of theological works, but indicates also that their owner had a considerable variety of interests. Apparently he considered it an important duty to secure books that would be valuable in bringing up children, and to give his grown-up children from time to time books that would make for the acquisition of sterling Christian character.

Among his books that are still preserved is

The Confession of Faith
The Larger and Shorter Catechisms
with the Scripture — Proofs at Large
Glasgow: M,DCC,LXIII

On the inside of the front cover he wrote:

As I desire to do all the good I can (to my Children & others) while I live; so I desire to do them good with what I Leave behind me, when I am gone.

This Book I give to my 3 Sons, to go round amongst them once a year; and Each may Demand it in the following Months, viz. —
Samuel, in Jan. Febr. March & April
Joshua, in May June July & August.
Jabez, in Sept. Oct. Nov. & Dec. — or
otherwise as they shall agree
With Liberty to my Daughters to Read,
as often as they Request it of their
Brethren in reason. They are all
Desired to Regard it as a verry
Instructive Book, & improve it
accordingly, as well as use
it carefully. — S. Lane

Our hard working farmer “was fond of society and of edifying conversation, as well as of reading, & had in his active part of life a large acquaintance with men both in civil & religious stations, by whom he was ever esteemed and respected.”*

He was much engaged in public business. “He ever discovered an anxious Interest in the welfare of his country & readily afforded all his aid to promote it. He manifested a spirit of candor & moderation toward those who differed from him on many political ques-

* From an unsigned manuscript.

tions & lamented the prevalence of party Spirit which has disturbed the public tranquility.'"*

He was a justice of the peace, served for several years as a selectman or as town clerk, and in 1775 was a member of the Congress at Exeter.

In 1776 he played an important part in preparing and presenting to the Congress a petition against the assumption of unwarranted powers:

Pursuant to a letter from the Comtee of Safty at Portsmo to the Comtee of Safty at Stratham, Respecting a late Act of the Congress Sitting at Exeter, Resolving themselves into a General Assembly, Choosing a Council &c. —

The Town Assembled (by the Desire of the Select Men & Comtee of Safty) at Mrs. Chases on Saturday the 13th of Jan 1776 and voted Dn. [Deacon] Bordman, Danl. Clark, Simon Wiggin Jon'an Wiggin & Saml. Lane a Comtee to Draw a Petition and present it to the Meeting on Adjournment, then adjourned to Monday next at 4 o'clock afternoon.

Met according to Adjournment, when a Petition was presented by Sd. Comtee & read in the Meeting, and Voted accepted; and that the same shall be presented to the Congress now sitting at Exeter, and

Voted Dn. Bordman & Saml Lane be a Comtee to Carry Sd Petition and Present it to the Congress. — then the Meeting was Dissolved.

a true Copy attest S Lane T Clk

Here is a copy of the petition presented to the Congress Jan. 18, 1776:

Stratham Jan. 15th 1776

Colony of } To the Hon^{ble} Congress Chosen by the Inhabi-
New Hampr } tants of the Several Towns in Sd Colony, to Meet
at Exeter on the 21st Day of December 1775.

The Memorial and Remonstrance of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Stratham in Town Meeting Assembled Humbly Shews. — That your Memorialists are greatly alarm'd by the Information they have Receiv'd from their Deligate & others, that the Congress have assumed to themselves the Power & Authority of a House of Representatives, and have proceeded to Choose a Number of Counsellors, who, (as we Understand) are Acting as two Branches of Legislative Authority, for the Government of this Colony: which Measure your Memorialists, with all

* From an unsigned manuscript.

possible Decency Tenderness & Respect, Humbly beg leave most Earnestly to Remonstrate Against, for the following Reasons, viz.

1. We Humbly Conceive, by all the Information we have had, that the Inhabitants of the Colony in General do not Approve of this Measure, and had they been Consulted by their Delegates, (as we think they ought to have been, in a Matter of so great importance) they would have Declared to the Contrary.
2. We are of opinion that such a Measure looks too much like an open Declaration of Independency: which we can by no means countenance as we apprehend that will be putting a sword into the hands of our Enemies in great Britain to Destroy us: & at the same time to Disarm our friends there, of Every Argument they might otherwise use in our favour.
3. Because we Never Expected the Congress to get up a New form of Government; or that so small and inconsiderable a Colony as this would take the Lead in a Matter of Such a Momentous Concern: but only to set the Judicial and Executive Wheels a going.
4. Because we apprehend the Congress as Such, could better have done what was Necessary for the Peace & order of the Colony; and with vastly less Expense than in the present Mode: and that their Power could not be Enlarged by any act of their own.
5. Altho' we Desire to maintain the Highest opinion of the upright Disposition of the Congress; and that their Designs & Intentions, is to do all in their Power to promote the General good:

Yet at the same time, we must beg leave to suggest our Apprehensions, that the Measure they are now purposing, will have a Most Unhappy Tendency to Disunite us; which appears to us a most Alarming Consideration; and what we are well Satisfied our Enemies not only Expect; but would be greatly Rejoyced to hear of.

For these Reasons (and many others that might be given, which as we would be Cautious of Prolixity we omit) we humbly pray that the assumption of Government may at least be suspended for the present: and that some Regulations may be adopted for the preservation of Property under such Restrictions as the Wisdom of the Congress shall order: and your Memorialists as in Duty Bound shall ever pray

A true Copy Attest Saml Lane T. Clk

There is abundant evidence in the Journal of Samuel Lane's loyalty to the kings of England, and when the war for independence broke out he looked upon it as a "Most Unnatural Civil War." At the time he was too old and too prosperous to welcome a revolution, but he and two of his sons, Samuel Lane, Jr., and Joshua, signed

the Association Test in 1776.* He does however quote from an Exeter paper in 1793, apparently with approval, though without comment, the query whether it is "Right for the President to Receive 65 Dollars per day, to sit in [an] Easie Chair, and but 36 Dollars for one whole years service for the men Destined to stand as marks for the roaring Cannon &c."

His influence in public affairs reached a wide circle through his friendly neighbor, Rev. Paine Wingate, a representative from New Hampshire in the first congress under the Confederation, and United States Senator in the first congresses under the Constitution. Unmistakable evidence of a long and highly valued friendship between the two men appears in the interesting letters written by Paine Wingate to Samuel Lane.

The following extracts show that Senator Wingate received from the Stratham farmer definite information about affairs in New Hampshire, and in return furnished illuminating facts and opinions concerning matters vitally affecting the whole country.

Extracts from Paine Wingate to Samuel Lane.

N. Y. Mar 29th, 1788

The subject wh. engages the general attention at this time is the new Constitution. . . . In N. H. when the Convention met, there was a majority prejudiced against the plan. . Nothing but the hope of a new, can, I fear, keep the old Constitution from dissolution long. "Sed nunquam de Republica desperandum." The newspapers are so filled with lies that no dependance can be put on any account you receive in them respecting the Constitution.

* "In consequence of the . . . Resolution of the Hon. Continental CONGRESS, and to shew our Determination in joining our American Brethren, in defending the Lives, Liberties and Properties of the Inhabitants of the UNITED COLONIES

"WE, the *Subscribers*, do hereby solemnly engage, and promise, that we will, to the utmost of our Power, at the Risque of our Lives and Fortunes, with ARMS, oppose the Hostile Proceedings of the British Fleets, and Armies, against the *United American COLONIES*." — *Miscellaneous Revolutionary Documents of New Hampshire*, Vol. 30, State Papers Series.

N. Y. June 2d. 1788

Should be obliged to you to give that [paper, enclosed] which gives some account of bees to my wife with the letters to her directed. I hope you smoke your pipe with her sometimes.

N. Y. June 26th, 1788

It is very probable that those confusions in Europe may be the means of sending emigrants to America. Whether this will conduce to the real comfort & happiness of its present inhabitants I cannot say, but it will hasten on our population & make us a great if not a happy people.

N. Y., July 29, 1788

I wish to tarry no longer than necessity shall require, out of principle of Oeconomy to the state, as well as a fondness for home.

N. Y. Aug. 29, 1789

I confess that I am far from being satisfied with all our public affairs, especially with the appropriation of monies. However when I consider that a kind Providence has in a miraculous manner, & in many instances from the first settlement of the country saved us from destruction, so I hope that we shall be saved still & that we shall be a happy & a grateful people.

N. Y., Apr. 3, 1790

It gives me much uneasiness to find so many ways for our money to be applyed beside paying our creditors. . . .

My love to Mrs. Lane & all friends who am y'r affectionate friend

PAINE WINGATE.

A glance through Samuel Lane's painstakingly prepared manuscripts shows conclusively that he was one of the most systematic of men, and that he was perennially eager to make the best possible use of his time. A contemporary wrote:

"The hours of hospitality, of pleasure, or of rest were never permitted to interfere with the necessary business of life. Nor did he suffer what is called necessary business to encroach upon the time which is due to the devotions of the closet, of the family, or of the public assembly. Rarely have I known a man who might more justly be said to '*redeem the time*.' He caught and arrested the flying hours, and marked them down for useful purposes. Activity was an essential

attribute of his mind. Diligence and industry insensibly matured that attribute, and settled it into confirmed habit, and that habit continued with him while any capacity for action remained. . . . When bodily exertion was relaxed it only gave place to mental improvement. He delighted much in reading, and often, as he himself has told me, has quitted his pillow in the night, when others were asleep, trimmed his lamp, and occupied the midnight hours in reading.

“The God of nature had endowed him with powers of mind above the common level. His natural genius he had considerably enlarged and improved by laborious application, by attentive reading and close contemplation.”

This reading and contemplation aided him in establishing a firm foundation for Christian living. His grandson, Edmund J. Lane, writes: “It was his practice in reading to mark such passages as interested him, and such as he thought worthy of reading more than once, and it is an interesting fact that the parts most marked are the most evangelical and devotional, such as enforce the great doctrines of salvation by grace through faith in a crucified Redeemer, & enforce the duty of love to God & Man.” And the contemporary above quoted adds:

“His secret devotions undoubtedly were one means of preparing him for conducting the worship of God in the private family with such animation and energy, with such freedom and fervency. . . . His religion appeared to be a judicious and steady, a cordial and active principle. It extended its influence through the whole tenor of life.”

In his eighteenth year he had united with the church in Hampton and drawn up rules for his future conduct, “to which,” says his grandson Edmund, “he adhered

through life." Four years later, on October 6, 1739, he prepared a statement of his "views of himself and of his dependence on God, with a consecration of himself to Christ & his cause." The closing paragraph of this statement follows:

"As I am this day 21 years of age and about to begin the world for myself, I am resolved by the grace of God enabling of me to begin the world in the fear of God, and to live to his glory so Long as he shall continue me in the world, and to make the word of God my rule, to make Christ the pattern of my life, to be looking upon God as always looking upon me; to watch as much over the inward motions of my heart as the outward actions of my life, to be always exercising my thoughts upon good objects, to speak reverently to my superiours, humbly to my inferiours, & civilly to all; and to do my duty to all, and Lord, enable me so to do, and by thy grace to live so here that I may be received to dwell forever with thee hereafter; for Christs Sake amen."

Thus prayed the young man who became "remarkably solicitous & watchful in the instruction & government of his family, believing that their future comfort, respectability and usefulness in life greatly depended on their good instructions & orderly behavior in youth. Accordingly he trained up his children & domesticks in the way in which they should walk & set before them his good example."*

He was active in the Stratham church, deacon from 1765 to 1800, elder from 1800 till his death.

In the middle of the eighteenth century there was vigorous discussion in New England over the question of church membership. Followers of George Whitefield and Jonathan Edwards, not satisfied to have de-

* An Appreciation — manuscript unsigned.

cent citizens who professed certain beliefs join the church, insisted on what they called a "conversion," meaning a real change of heart. The convert must not only admit that he was a sinner, but must abandon his evil ways and become a "new" man. The result was that the Whitefieldians, of whom there were many in Stratham, came to look upon a considerable number of worthy church members as "unconverted." Even ministers who had grown old in the service were denounced as sinners and driven from their pulpits.

As in matters of government Samuel Lane's interests extended beyond the town and the state, so in matters of religion he was concerned with the welfare of his family, his town, his state, and his country. In the Journal in 1741 is this entry:

"In the latter end of this year there seemed to be an uncommon concern in the minds of People about their Souls, which concern seemed to be verry general in almost every Town in this Province, as well as the others, and I believe I may say throuout the country about this time. It seemed to be general on all ages & sexes, Black and White, but chiefly on young people. Many in the Meeting-House at once would seem to be struck down under the preaching of the word, crying out, 'What shall we do to be saved?' Also, some seemed to be struck after the same manner in their own Houses & about their work, & riding the Road, & in divers manners. Many seem'd to be under great convictions & in great terror. Many also seem'd to be in great transports of joy. People in general seem'd to be verry desirous of hearing the word & ministers forward to preach it, and for some time there were Lectures almost every day or night in many places, & not only publick but private meetings were very frequent."

Again in 1742, "There is a great deal of talk in the

country about Religion; also great opposition and difference in opinion about spiritual things, and great judging & censuring thereof. Ministers against Ministers and People against People, and Minister against people and people against the ministers, judging them unconverted. Itinerant preachers, greatly valued by many and greatly undervalued by others. Many private persons set themselves up to be public exhorters, & some to be preachers. 'Tis common to have Lectures almost every Day or Night in the week; and in the first beginning of these commotions the generality of the ministers and people approved of them, but after a while 'tis much the contrary."

In 1743 he writes: "It may not be improper here to make a Memorandum that there is great Religious Commotions in the country in general. Many People, in some places especially, that a year or two ago seemed greatly concerned for their souls, and to have [made] hopeful beginnings, now seem to run into great extremes on many accounts, especially in exclaiming against Ministers as unconverted; and many will separate themselves from their minister and church and set up separate Meetings and Meeting-Houses, & get preachers of their own way of thinking to preach to them. They refuse to come to the sacrament or to have their children Baptized by those Ministers they call unconverted. These things and many others cause great Disturbance in Towns, in churches, & in Families; Ministers & People, husbands & Wives, Parents and Children divided against each other, judging and condemning one another. These separate people are called by many 'New-Lights' & 'schemers', & the like. These and such like practices cause many people to stumble at and be much set against what they some time ago called a good work."

Again in 1744, "There is great Religious Commotions in the Country, and in particular sad Divisions in this Town; people striving to bring in another Man to preach with Mr. Rust, which makes great uneasiness & contention amongst us. Many of our People have for some time been separated from the church and refuse to join in the word & ordinances, and Mr. Dudley Leavitt now preaches to them in Mr. Coker's house, which they have fitted up with seats &c for that purpose. Also there is a separate Meeting-House now erecting at Exeter."

The next year the enthusiasm had waned, and in 1746 he wrote that "vice, immorality, worldly-mindedness, drunkenness, oppression and profaneness seemed greatly to prevail in the land." By this time questions of conversion had largely given way to legal contests in town meetings, courts, and legislatures. Such contests continued for years, and traces of their influence may be found in many a town in our time, nearly two hundred years later.

Inattention to religion continued till, in 1755, several earthquakes "surprised and affected" the people. The revived interest "too soon wore off and but little apparent Reformation was to be seen. This is a Lamentation and should be for a Lamentation." On November 25 the entry is "Private Fast on account of the Earthquakes." The next year comes the regret that "altho many Judgments seem to Threaten us with Spedy Destruction, yet there seems to be almost a Universal Lethergie upon all sorts of people."

In 1757 the journalist wrote "Religion seems to be but Little minded, and threatened Judgments Little regarded throughout our Nation . . . there are yet sundry Lay preachers among us which make separation in this Town from our Minister (Mr. Adams); and as

there is a Rate Raised for his support this year many of them refuse to pay it; & the Cunstable has carried several of them to Jail." The next year he added "Religion is at a Low Ebb; Young People grow uncommonly Loose, Rude and Vain, and Ungoverned; and if Reproved or Restrained by their Superiours they immediately List into the Warr, and so get clear of their Parents and Masters Government that way."

Twelve years later, in 1770, he was not particularly pleased with the situation. He wrote "This year the Baptist persuasion prevails very much in some places; and Mr. Smith, Baptist Minister at Haverhill, rides through the Country propagating his Tenets, and has been in this town this summer; & many of those people called 'Separates', 'Scheemers', &c are turned Baptists (supposed to do it to save their minister's Rate); and s'd Smith dipped 14 of those Persons at Winicut last June, viz. John Thurston, Stevens Piper, Enoch Merril & wife, John Clark, Nat Piper & wife, Jonathan Sibley, Moses Clark, Esq. Moore's wife, Widow Piper & some from other Towns."

In 1791 he regretted that there were so many itinerant preachers, and that almost anybody considered himself capable of preaching and speaking in public, "women & girls not excepted."

Rev. Paine Wingate, in his obituary of Samuel Lane's son Jabez, wrote "He was charitable towards those who differed from him in circumstantialia of religion, wherever they appeared to love Jesus Christ in sincerity. . . . His opinions were the results of serious and diligent inquiring; therefore he was not given to change."* The records indicate that these statements applied with equal force to Samuel. He, too, was "serious", "diligent", and "not given to change." Spurring him to do

* Life of Paine Wingate by Charles E. L. Wingate, vol. I, p. 96.

his best and to lead a full, well-rounded life, was the constant thought that he was in the hands of God. There was no deviating from his fixed purpose to carry out the wishes of the Almighty in so far as he could discover them; and he was no less ready to accept without a murmur distressing "visitings of Providence" than he was to welcome His provision for the welfare and comfort of the community and the nation.

His achievements were by no means inconsiderable. He managed his affairs with the practical good sense that makes for success. At first a poor man, he continued by hard work and skilful planning to keep the creditor from the door. A farmer, he knew the value of a cow and a horse. A surveyor, he was a good judge of the worth of land. A journalist, he took the utmost pains to be accurate. An indefatigable reader, he kept buying books, although at times he counted their cost.

A highly respected townsman, he was called on to settle claims, to adjust differences among neighbors, to protect the rights of the community, and to advise a prominent member of the Congress. A man of high principles and ideals, he apparently knew how to accomplish his purposes without interfering with the rights of others. A modest man, who recorded his achievements with almost no trace of pride, as old age was creeping upon him and gradually depriving him of the ability to hear, to walk, and to see, the ray of comfort that came from the contemplation of some of his accomplishments may have prompted him to write: "tis said old men fail in everything but Conceit."

A man who with next to nothing began his struggles in a world that challenged the best equipped, he had shown an integrity of purpose and a persistence in habits of industry that justified him in entertaining the satisfactions that naturally come to one who has tried

faithfully to do his part in the home and in the community. When he could no longer see to read, he might be pardoned for recalling with pleasure the tribute paid him ten years before his death by his grandson Ebenezer, a Pittsfield, New Hampshire, farmer, whose services as surveyor were highly valued: "Wherever you are known we scarcely need any recommendation only to say we are the Children or Grand Children of Dea. Lane."

We have in his own words a remarkable appreciation of life and what it meant to him, together with a summing up of his accomplishments:

Public Thanksgiving Day morning, Nov. 21, 1793 as I was Musing on my Bed being awake as Usual before Daylight; recollecting the Many Mercies and good things I enjoy for which I ought to be thankful this Day; some of which I have Noted after rising as follows viz.:

The Life & health of myself and family, and also of so many of my Children, grand Children & great grandchildren; also of my other Relations and friends & Neighbors, for Health peace and plenty amongst us.

for my Bible and Many other good and Useful Books, Civil & Religious Priviledges, for the ordinances of the gospel; and for my Minister.

for my Land, House and Barn and other Buildings, & that they are preserv'd from fire & other accidents.

for my wearing Clothes to keep me warm, my Bed & Beding to rest upon

for my Cattle, Sheep & Swine & other Creatures, for my support.

for my Corn, Wheat, Rye Grass and Hay; Wool, flax, Syder, Apples, Pumpkins, Potatoes, Cabages, tirnips, Carrots, Beets, peaches and other fruits.

for my Clock and Watch to measure my passing time by Day and by Night,

Wood, Water, Butter, Cheese, Milk, Pork, Beefe, & fish, &c
for Tea, Sugar, Rum, Wine, Gin, Molasses, peper, Spice & Money for to bye other Necessaries and to pay my Debts & Taxes &c.

for my Lether, Lamp oyl & Candles, Husbandry Utensils, & other tools of every sort &c &c &c.

Bless the Lord O my Soul and all that is within me Bless his

holy Name. Bless the Lord O my Soul and forget not all his benefits, who Satisfieth thy mouth with good things &c.

psl. 103, 1, 2, 5.

SAMUEL LANE

Apparently it was with the pride of a patriarch that during the last years he leaned more and more on his children, and with the dignity of a victor who had been amply rewarded that he approached the end. It is recorded that on December 29, 1806, he “gently fell asleep.”

He gave his best to his little world, and in return that world gave him the best it could: a rugged but well-rounded life, with many durable satisfactions.



THE JABEZ LANE HOUSE, 1806

*on the site of Samuel's house which can be located on the Map
of Stratham, following page 24 at the point marked Dⁿ S. Lane.*

Mrs. Powell (see Preface, page iv) is writing a sketch of this house.



SAMUEL LANE'S CLOCK
(Now owned by John W. Lane of Chicago)

DIGEST I — PROCEEDINGS AND BUSINESS

SAMUEL LANE^s JOURNAL FROM OCT 6 1739

Extracted from my Daily Journals

Zech 4.10. for who hath despised the Day of Small things.

Prov 3.6. in all thy ways Acknowledge him, and he Shall direct thy paths.

Ps. 127.1 Except the Lord Build the House, they Labour in vain that Build it.

Prov 10.4. — the diligent hand, maketh Rich.

10.22. The Blessing of the Lord, it maketh Rich.

A Brief Memorandum of Some of my proceedings & Business in the World, after I began to Act for my Self, at the age of 21 years.

SAM^L LANE

Oct 6th 1739. I was 21 years of Age, and Enter'd my 22nd year. (Note. Paper Money & Coppers is almost the only Money passing in New England.)

when my time was first out, my Father gave me near 20£ old Ten^r worth of Lether to begin with he also gave me my Board the first year; after that, I Boarded my Self.

Money being Scarce, it was Difficult to get Money for my work: and the best Method I could think of was, to make Shoes & Some fishing Boots, for the [Isles of] Shoals; and my practice was when I had got a little Cargo made, to carry them over to the Shoals; and when I could not get money for them, I would Sell them for oyl, Blubber, & Fish &c: I have Draw'd off 2 Barrels of oyl in a fall; & Sold it for Corn; then I would Endeavour to turn the Corn into Money; Sometimes get it ground,

& hire a Horse, and Carry the Meal to Portsm^o, and the Cost of that, Eat up all my gain; only I turned my work into Money; and at the years End I found I had got Something to help Set me up. Sometimes I took Boards & Shingles & Nails for my work w^h I Expected to want. I also work'd Some Lether of other Peoples; & did any Business, that I tho't would turn to any Account as it fell in my way and took any Sort of pay, that I tho't would turn to any Account.

Note. I work'd in a little Shop I parted off for that use, in one Corner of my fathers Shop.

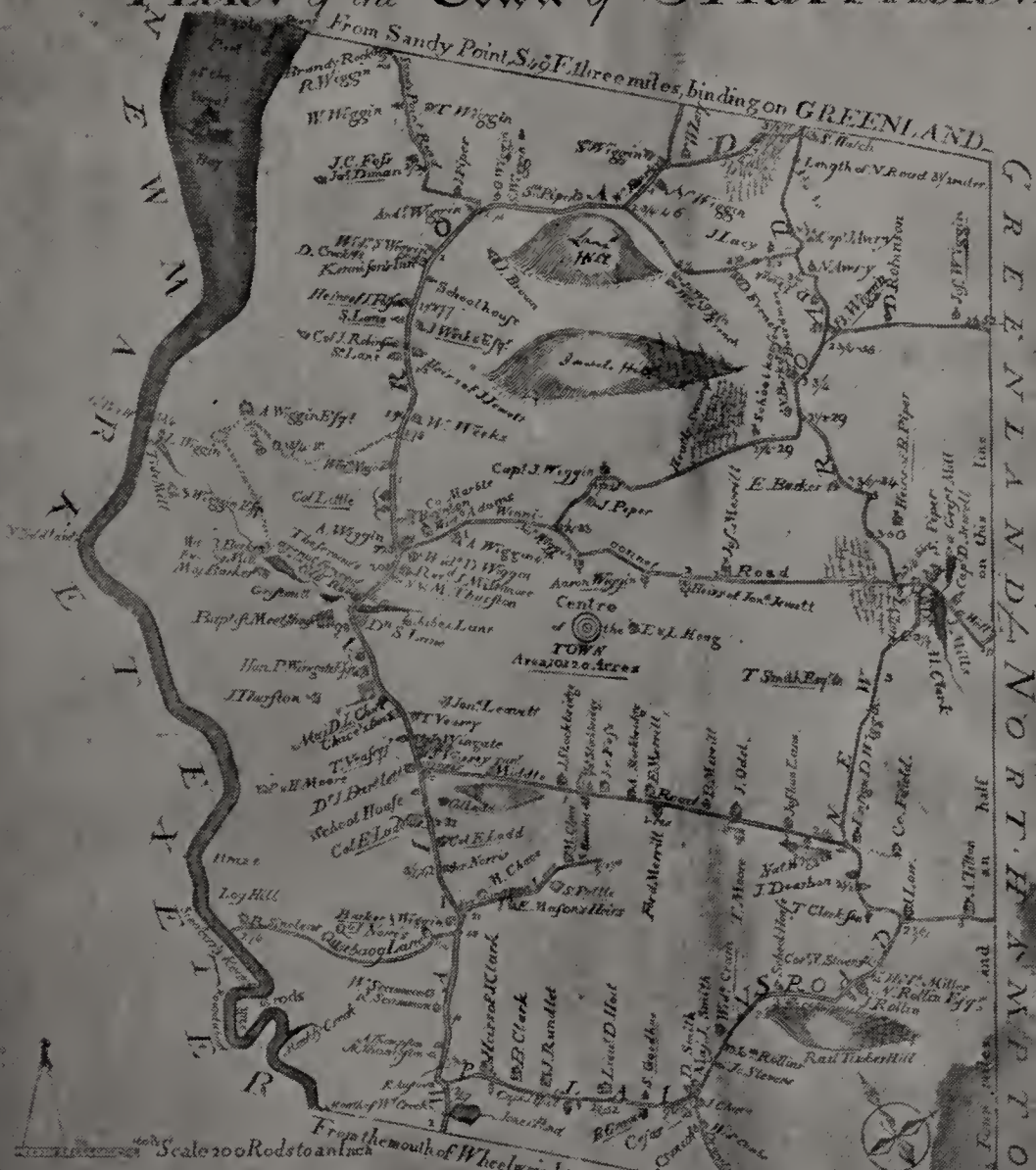
This Method I followed a year or More, & found I had Acquired Something as aforesaid to help Set me up; and thinking it might be better for me to Settle (as I had Courted Some time) I try'd verry hard to purchase a House Lott (for I had Not Money to purchase much Land) I tryed in Several Towns, as Hampton, Northill [North Hampton], Kensington &c but could not obtain a Suitable place for a Tanyard, which caused me much trouble & perplexity; before I obtained one to my mind, So well as I did.

Note. Now Dollars went about 18s old Ten^r apiece; but so little used, that but few People knew what a Dol^r was.

Oct 6 1740. I Entered the 23rd year of my Age. Note. Oct 1. 1740. Mr Whitfield preach'd first in Hampton. Note. This year I Taned 11 Hides & 18 Skins, at Hampton.

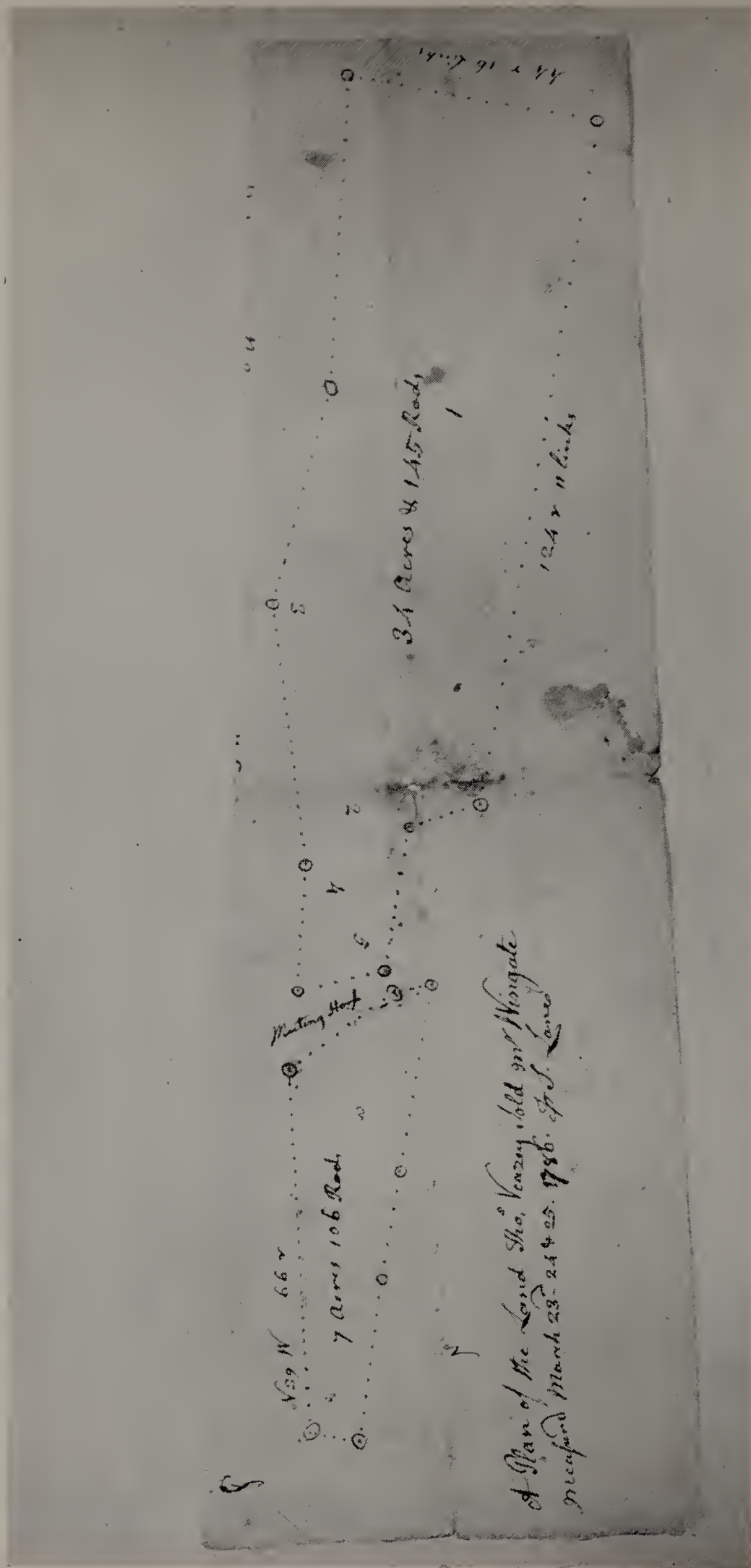
And being Sundry times Strongly invited by Mr Coker, Mr Barker, Mr Hill & others (who Traded with my Father) to Settle in Stratham, and Not Suiting my Self any where Else, I went to Stratham on that Account Several times in the months of January & February 1741, to look out a Suitable place; though it was an unsuitable time; for the Snow was verry Deep: but being

PLAN of the Town of STRATHAM.



EXPLANATION The figures on the roads represent the distance, in miles, parts and rods, from the great meeting house:—If the owner does not reside in his house, under his name is a stroke thus, —

STRATHAM IN 1793
Samuel Lane's house marked Dⁿ S. Lane



ONE OF SAMUEL LANE'S PLANS

(From the Treasure Room, Widener Library, Harvard University)

Uneasie in my present Circumstances; my Father had a great Family, and I knew I was Burthensome to them, tho' I paid for Dressing my Victuals, which I provided for my Self, after the first year; yet as I wanted to Settle, they Also wanted I Should; and I took all possible pains to get a House Lott to Sit down upon. Note. Epping and Brentwood, was counted too far in the Woods to Settle.

I tryed to purchase a House Lott of Mr And^r Wiggin by mr Hills Brook; but Could not obtain, and on the 17th Day of Feb 1741, I went again to Stratham on the Same Errand, and mr Coker who was verry kind, Entered me Several Nights; and went with me to Sundry places to try to procure a House Lott: and on the 19th day of Feb 1741, I Bargained wth Colo Wiggin for a piece of Land on the North Side of his sons Mill Pond Called 2 Acres More or less for 26£, & took a Deed of it & paid him for it, which Exceedingly Rejoiced me, that I had found a Spot to Sit down upon; which I tho't would Suit for a House Lott; and a Tanyard by the Mill Pond; but it did not Answer my Expectations.

Feb 25, 1741. I went to Stratham & was there Several Days assisted by mr Coker trying to get a House Frame, but co'd not obtain to my mind.

March 2nd I went to Stratham & Bargained with Dn Moore & his Son W^m for a House Frame 26 feet long 29 wide; to be Raised for 30£, 18£ of it to be pd in mens shoes 18/ a pair, womens 13/6, & 12£, in money. at the Same time I Bargained for Timber for a Bark House Frame with mr Thomas Moore and afterward w^h Jonaⁿ Clark for 50/ to Hew it, & Jn^o James for 4£ to Frame it. April 1, 1741. Bargained wth Joseph Mason for 1 Acre of Land on the South Side the Millpond, for 17£. I had then no Design to Settle that Side; but did

it Chiefly to prevent any other Person from settling there, as Huniford talked of it. Apr 14. I took a Deed of it.

Apr 20. I went to Stratham & Dug a hole where I Intended to Set my House; and Soon Come to Water; and to my great Disapointment, found it wo'd not do to Set a House there.

May 21 1741. I went to Stratham & Bargained wth Joseph Mason for another Acre of Land Joining the first; & runing down to take in a Brook for a Tanyard; Concluding to Set my House there; for this Acre he made me give him 20£, about Equal to 20 Dollars. May 25. went wth Esq^r Palmer to Stratham & Measured off my 2 acres of Land I had of Mason as aforesd, & took a Deed.

Note. when I come to raise my House on S^d Land, I found I had not room convenient before it; and mr Mason then promised to let me have a strip More of Land for that purpose; which afterward he did.

May 28. I drove my Cow to Stratham to Jn^o Thirstons where I had Agree'd for my Board.

Note. before I was 21 years old, I Bo't a Calf & hired it kept, and it is now a Cow (as above) which is of great Service toward my Support, for Milk, Butter & Cheese: I also have a heifer, & Eight Sheep. Note. all these Creatures (but my Cow) I was obliged to Sell to help Build my House &c.

June 11, 1741. I Remov'd my Self and what goods & things I had, to Stratham, to Board at the House of mr Jn^o Thirstons where I Continued till Jan 6, 1742, when I removed into my own House. I gave mrs Thirston 3^s a Week for Dressing my Victuals and I had Milk Butter & Cheese from my own Cow of her Make.

June 16, 1741. my House was Raised I Bro't Some Boards & Nails from Hampton w^h I had Bo't there, and

Clam Shells for Lime, Shingles &c to help build my House withal.

July 1, 1741. my Bark-House was Raised but not Covered till next year.

memd^m I Lett out my Celler to Mr Abr^m Stockbridge to Dig & Stone for 8£ 10s, and he finding it a hard Bargain Desired I wo'd add 30s more to it, which I did, & made it 10£-0s-0d in the whole.

I Lett out my House to Board to y^e Frenches, and to Shingle to Mr Joshua Hill.

I Lett out my Brick & Tile to Rich'd Crocket, to be made & Burnt by y^e Mill-Pond; for Brick 40^s pr Thou- sand & Tile 6d apiece.

I Lett out my Chimneys to be Built to mr Joseph Hill for 7£. a common Labourer had now 6^s a Day and I gave them 7^s a Day & they found themselves at mak- ing Morter.

I Lett out my Cieling & finishing my great room, to Timothy Jones for 6£, or a Heifer and the Lathing Plastering & Setting my Glass to David Jewel, 6d a Square Setting & 2d Square Painting Sashes.

Sept. 14, 1741. Laid the foundation of my Chimneys, and begun to Board my House.

Sept 24 1741. I was Published at Hamptⁿ & Strat- ham.

Oct 5. my Chimneys were finished.

Oct 6 1741. I Enter'd the 24th year of my Age.

I Lett out my Window Frames & Sashes to Jn^o Barker & Timothy Jones. Ephr^m Crocket Built my Chamber Stairs for 68s. This fall I finished my Noth- east Corner Bedroom, so as to Make a Shop of it, where I work'd at my Trade, till I Built me a Shop, in oct. 1742.

Note: my Purchasing my Land (tho' but Little) and Building my House & Setling; so Exhausted my Little

Substance, that I was obliged to part with all I Co'd Spare, to pay for it: I Sold a fine heifer Coming in 8, to Timothy Jones for finishing my Room for 6£; and Eight Sheep I had wh I also Sold to John Thirston and all but 1 Cow; which I kept. I had nothing left to procure my years Pork when I began to keep House: but ran in Debt to Dn [Deacon] Robinson for half a Hog to live on; which he bro't Jan 20 1742 weighed 167 lb at 14d pr lb. I had 2 quarters of Beaf of Jn^o Hill for my work this fall.

Oct 6, 1741. I Enter'd the 24th year of my Age. this year I Tan 7 hides & 24 Calfskins. this fall I finished a Room or two in my House as fast as I could, in order to Settle. But having no Barn I hired my Cow Winter'd by Jn^o Thirston in part; and Neighbour Mason in part, for which I paid 5£. I painted the fore-side & East end of my House Red.

Dec 24th 1741. I Married my Wife. Note. the Anniversary of our Marriage comes on Jan. 4th New Stile.

Jan 6th 1742. I Mov'd my Wife and her goods to my own House.

Note. New Stile tis Jan 17th.

Feb 24. I carried my wife to See her Friends 1st time after She removed to Stratham.

Note. The year 1741 has been a verry Remarkable year with me. — this year I Bought Land Convenient for my Business to Settle upon — this year I Remov'd from my Native Town to Another — this year I Built me a House to Dwell in — this year I Rais'd my Bark-House — and this year I Married a Wife — and this year I have (by the help of a kind Providence) been carried through Many Changes & Difficultys, and having obtained help from God, I Continue yet a living (tho' most unworthy) Sam^l Lane.

And now having to my great Joy & Satisfaction, got

comfortably Setled in my own House; with an Agreeable Wife; I began to look over my Accounts, to See what I was in Debt toward my Building &c and found that I ow'd toward my House &c about 70£ Equal to about 70 Dollers: — and having no Creatures to look after this Winter but a Pig; I went to work night and Day, to pay my Debts; and by the last of the Spring I believe I was pritty near out of Debt; but then I had worked up my Lether; and was pretty bare on't for Stock: but I work'd Some Lether for other People; & Some I Bo't &c. that I got along as well as I could. — and having taken some Hides this Winter, I wanted a Tanyard (Note. I have to tan this year 7 Hides which I hung up in my Chamber having no Barn) and last fall having made me a mean Water Pitt with Slabbs; I dare not put my hides in Soak Early, lest I should not get my Pitts ready timely for Liming: But on the 8th of may 1742 I finished putting Down 2 Tanpitts: and having no Bark-Mill, I carried my Bark that year, to mr Jewets to grind, and hired his Mill & Horse to grind it, which is Costly.

Jan 26, 1742 our Fathers & Mothers come first time to See us.

May 12, 1742. I Bro't my wives heifer & Calf from Hamptⁿ.

June 1. I Bro't mother James over to See us. Being out of Lether this Summer, I was obliged to take out my new Lether as Soon as possible this fall 1742 a little undertan^d.

Oct 6, 1742. Enter'd the 25 year of my Age.

Oct 13, 1742. I Rais'd my Shop, and finished it as fast as I Co'd against Winter. I tan 23 Hides & 24 Calfskins this year.

Nov 6, 1742. finished Stoning my first Well that I Dug the foreside of my House, which I Lett out to mr Abr^m Stockbridge for 8£ which did not answer.

Dec 6. Moved into my New Shop, where I and my Wife lived Chiefly this Winter, to Save Wood. Note. this Shop Stood Against the West End of my House, at a Chimney of my House. Note. this Winter I having no Barn kept my Cows in my Bark-House. Note. about the end of the year 1741 & begining of 1742 & so on for Some years there are great Religious Commotions in the Land. Note. New Tenor Money 4 Double to y^e other, began in 1742.

Apr 4 1743. I Bo't a Mare (the 1st Horse Kind y^t ever I owned) of old mr Mason for 12£ old tenor and an old Saddle of Cuffe for 4£. I Bo't Flocks of the Cloathiers & made a Flock Bed this year.

Apr 4, 1743. Mother James Died.

Apr 6, 1743. I Bo't a Barkstone of Sam^l Lovet of Hampton for 10-15-0 Delivered at my House, old Ten^r.

May 1743. I Bought 2½ Acres of Land of John Purmort & Neighbour Mason, Called my Swamp and hired Some Money to help pay for it of Sam^l Neal.

June 1743. I put Down my Bark-Mill.

July 11, 1743. Rais'd my Barn; & Bordered it this fall. in 1743, my wife began to be Weakley; and I carried her to Portsm^o to Graney Hilton: & went to Dr Sawyer, who helped her verry Much of her weakness. Indians troublesome this year; People kept Garrison at New-market.

Oct 6, 1743 I Enter'd the 26th year of my Age. My principle Business is now at my Trade; and the year 1743, I Tan'd 24 Hides & 18 Calfskins. Note. this year I hired an old England man to work wth me.

July 14, 1744. our Eldest Daughter Mary was Born.

Sept 30, 1744. being Lords Day, there was an unaccountable Uproar in the Meeting House by attempting to bring mr Dudley Leavit into the Pulpit to preach

half the Day wth Mr Rust; which being Complained of to the Governor, he Sent the High Sherif, Mr Packer, the Next Sabbath, and took mr Leavit out of y^e Pulpit, which occasioned Law Business in Town, and was a Damage to Me I being Tything Man that year and obliged to Complain of Such Disorders as was then in Town.

Oct 6, 1744. I Enter'd the 27th year of my Age. I Tan'd 18 Hides & 40 Skins this year.

1745. This year Cape Bretton was taken 1st time.

Jan 5, 1745. my Grandmother Lane Died.

Febr 26, 1745. I Bo't a Horse of Nathan Hoag.

Aug 1, 1745. I Mov'd my Shop to the East End of my House.

Oct 14 & 15. Built my Shop Chimney.

this year Marchants goods grow Exceeding Dear. Mollasses 14 or 15^s a Gallon. Cotton Wool 15 & 18^s a pound &c by reason of the War.

in 1744, I taned 18 Hides & 40 Calfskins as above s^d.

Note. in these years past I had no Constant Apprentice only Abr^m Perkins 1 year; & James Critchet 2 spells but hired Journeymen when I wanted help; to Save my Weakly Wife the trouble of a great family.

Oct 6, 1745. I Enter'd y^e 28th year of my Age.

in 1745, I Taned 15 Hides & about 50 Skins.

May 8, 1746. our Son Samuel Born.

July 1, 1746. I Sold my Horse to Morton for 10£ New Ten^r w^h I bo't of Hoag. this year I began to keep Sheep. about this time I Bo't half a Right in Bow of Glenvil or Simon Wiggin.

Aug 11, 1746. I Bou't a Mare of Jn^o Barker for 50£.

1746. the French Fleet at Chebucta that were coming against us, were Defeated by Storms, Deaths of officers, & other providences, in a verry remarkable Manner.

1746. our paper Money begins to Sink in its Vallue

and the prices of things rise Exceeding fast; corn which has been Sold for Several years past for 10 or 12^s pr Bushel now goes at 20^s Early in the fall; & before Cristmas meal is Sold at Portsm^o for 26^s pr Bushel: Salt 40^s

Oct 6, 1746. I Enter'd y^e 29th year of my Age.

Note. Dollars are now about 24^s old ten^r apiece.

1746. I Taned 35 Hides & about 47 Calfskins.

March 20, 1747. Mr Adams was ordained over the Separates in this Town: which was done before Ens. Veazeys House.

Having Now got Something beforehand I Spoke for a Clock. about these years I measur'd Considerable Land. this year 3 persons kil'd by Indians in 1 Day at Notingham.

Apr 1, 1747. I Sold my Mare to Nathan Hoag.

May 5, 1747. Father James Died. this year I put down more Tanpitts.

June 29, 1747. I Bo't a Horse of Ens Jewit for 55£.

Aug 26, 1747. Mr Blasedel bro't my Clock price 26-0-0 old Ten^r

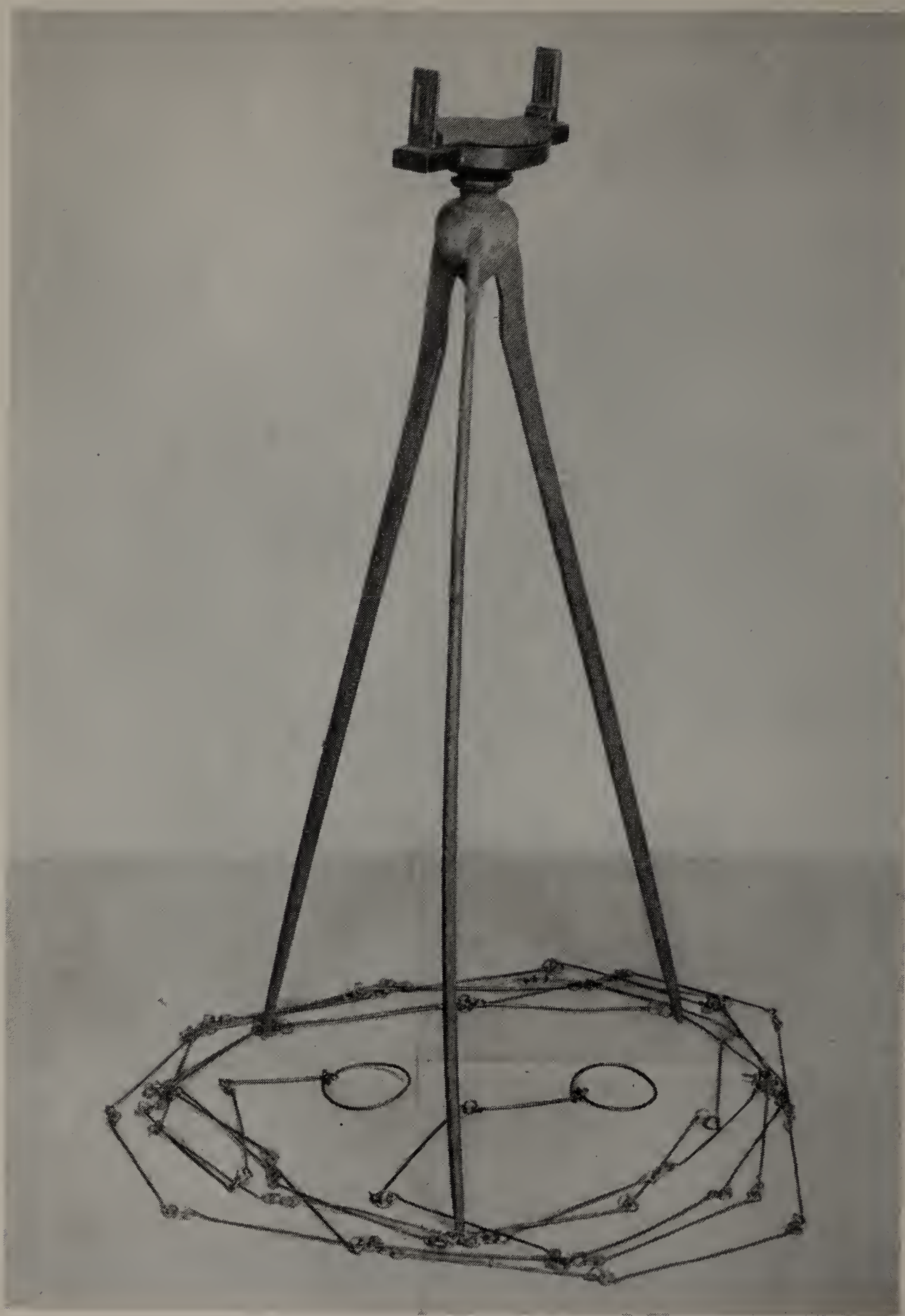
Oct 6, 1747. I Enter'd the 30th year of my Age. this year I Taned 37 Hides & 63 Calfskins.

Febr 9th 1748. our Son Joshua Born.

Now the prices of every thing Bo't & Sold Among us is Advanced at an Uncommon Rate; and our Paper Money Sunk so much in its Vallue, that makes it Exceeding Difficult Trading one Among another. Hides have in a little time risen from 8^d to 18^d and 2^s & Some 2/6 pr lb and all other things to an Unaccountable Degree So that there is no Encouragement to work or Trade; for if you work up your Stock which you have by you, which you bo't for 8^d pr lb and Sell it at that Rate, or with Some Advance; and trust it a little while; by the time you get your pay, hides are got to be 2^s pr



THE COMPASS HAS "S. L. 1747" ON THE UNDERSIDE
Surveyor's Set in possession of Wallace R. Lane



SAMUEL LANE'S SURVEYING INSTRUMENTS, TRIPOD AND CHAIN

lb. So that your old Stock with your Labour Added to it, will not procure you Another Stock so good as that you have work'd up: Abundance of these things happening about this time I lost much of the gain I ought to have had by my Labour: and this makes me Desirous of Laying my Money out in Land, which I am trying to purchase but Can't have any oppertunity to bye any that Suits me: and Letting my Money out, it Sinks more than one half in the run of one year: this is Discouraging.

Oct 6, 1748. I Enter'd y^e 31st year of my Age.

this year I Tan 26 Hides & 55 Calfskins. as Money Sinks So verry fast, I am trying out Town as well as in Town, to lay it out in Land, but Can't Succeed to my mind.

Nov 21, 1748. I Bo't my Watch of John Thirston pr. 50£ old Ten^r Equal to about 20 Dollars.

Nov 25, 1748. I Set out with Exeter People to lay out a Town on y^e West Side of Pemigawasset River above Bakers Town. Note. this is y^e 1st time I camp'd in y^e Woods. Came home Dec. 7. I think I agree'd for 3£ pr Day old Ten^r.

Dec 15. Set out to Perambulate Bow Line round y^e Town came home.

Dec 29. Note I gave Bryent 3£ pr Day for going to Bow with me as Surveyor, old Tenor.

March 6, 1749. Nathan Hoag and I Bo't about 26 Acres of Land at Exeter of Daniel Robinson (as we co'd not get any where to lay our Money out better which Daily Sunk in its Vallue in our hands) and we improved it together about 14 months; when we Meeting with Difficulty with the Cattle in y^e Pasture, Hoag being Discouraged, I Set a price, & he chose to Sell his part: then I owned it all: but it being So remote, was not profitable to Either of us: and I Sold the whole (with a Small Addition to it, I had of Phillip Connor) to mrs

Odiorne I think in 1757, and was glad when I had got rid of it.

Feb 14, 1749. my Grandfather Lane Died in the 91st year of his Age.

March 20, 1749. Mr Rust Died, and mr Adams in his Sickness began to Preach in the Meeting House on the 5th of Febr before.

May 6, 1749. I Bo't a Mare of Brad^t Wiggin for 100£ old Ten^r.

May 11. I Set out to Bow to lay out y^e 100 Acre Lotts. had 3£ pr Day. Note. there is a terrible Drought this year.

Oct 6, 1749. I Enter'd y^e 32^d year of my Age. this year I tan 38 Hides & 83 Calfskins.

Jan 2, 1750. I Bo't a heifer of mr Coker Coming in 3 price 17£.

Mar 5, 1750. I Set out for Bow to Lay out Some Land wth Sam^l Connor & others: and also with a Design to lay out N^o 6. But the Rivers breaking up could not finish. I came home mar 19.

Apr 21. I Set up my first Workhouse in my Tan-yard.

June 19, 1750. I Set out with y^e 2 Mile People wth y^e Governors orders to Lay out Holderness &c. July 4. came home. memd^m Sept 5. my Grandmother Robie Died in the 86th year of her Age.

July 24, 1750. our Daughter Susanna was Born.

Sept 29. I was taken with the throat Distemper.

Oct 1. Anthony Pevy began to Dig my 2nd Well behind my House. Note. in 1749, by reason of the great Drought a Multitude of Cattle were killed & Hides fell again to 16^d and so continued till about 1755, and those that run up the price lost by it.

Oct 6, 1750. I Enter'd y^e 33rd year of my Age. this year I tan 55 Hides (& Sold Br Jn^o 3) & 36 Skins.

Dec 11, 1750. finished my Well which has been verry Costly in Diging & Blowing 8 feet in a Rock.

June 1751. my brother Ebenezer who has lived with me Several years went home not well.

Aug 10, 1751. Sam^l Philbrook come to live with me.

1751. this year I Served Select Man the 1st time.

Oct 3. I sold my mare to my Father for 95£ old Ten^r.
about these years I measure abundance of Land. this year I Bo't a Right in Barnstead of my Br W^m. Note. Many people Several years past run up the price of Hides to 2^s pr lb & Some more: after which Lether fell, and their Stock after it was tan'd would not fetch hardly so much as they gave for the Hides.

Oct 6, 1751. I Enter'd the 34th year of my Age. this year I tan 28 Hides & 66 Skins.

June 11, 1752. I Raised an Addition to my House and had my Father & Mother and all their 14 Children together at my Table. — and that Day week after we were all together at Br Jabez James funeral who Dined with us at Raising.

Sept 1752. New Stile began.

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Sept 30, 1752. our Daughter Sarah Born. about this time I Bargained wth Col Wiggin for 22 Acres of Land for 1100£ old Ten^r.

Note. Anno 1752. New Stile begins which brings my Birth Day to be the 17th of october for the future.

Oct 17th, 1752. I Enter'd the 35th year of my Age. this year I tan 22 Hides & 75 Skins.

Oct 24, 1752. I Set out for Holderness y^e 2nd time to Lay out Lots.

Nov 11. Came home.

April 20, 1753. I was hurt by the fall of a Tree.

Aug 1753. Benj Johnson painted the outside of my House.

Oct 1753. I Run Dover Head Line. 16 miles long.

Oct 17, 1753. I Enter'd y^e 36th year of my Age. this year I tan 25 Hides & 70 Skins.

Nov 17. I took up my last Note for paying Col Wiggin for my 22 Acres of Land.

Dec 1753 & Jan 1754. Sarah had the throat Distemper.

March 22 1754. I went to Col Smiths to Run Durham & Dover Line.

Apr 4, 1754. I was Chose Proprietors Clerk for Bow.

July & Aug. 1754. I had the fever & Ague.

Nov 4. I Bo't a Cow of Ezekiel Samborn at Eppin for 23£.

Nov 16. I Bo't a heifer to Kill of ann Davis.

this Summer Jer- Avery lived with me.

Oct 17, 1754. I Enter'd y^e 37th year of my Age. this year I tan 27 Hides 80 Calfskins & 63 Sheepskins.

Feb 11, 1755. Marston Prescot come to live with me.

Febr 22, 1755. our Daughter Martha Born. (Died June 19, 1803 Aged 48 yrs 4 m^o lacking 3 Days.)

May 26, 1755. Pull'd down my Chimneys, and

May 31, finished putting them up agin.

Aug & Sept 1755. Mess^{rs} Pearsons painted my Rooms.

this fall an Army went to Crown Point.

Oct 17, 1755. I Enter'd y^e 38th year of my Age.

this year I Tan 38 Hides & 102 Calfskins.

Oct 7 & 8, 1755. Rebuilt my Shop Chimney.

Nov 18, 1755. was a terrible Earthquake.

March 1, 1756. I Bo't Morris Flings Land & Building.

July 19, 1756. I Bo't 6 half Rights in Bow of Collector Piper: and afterward Sold them all again.

June 24, 1756. Mr Adams Installed.

the year 1756. War has been Declar'd Against France. Dollers are now by y^e Crown Point Money*

* The value given the dollar by the English Crown.

Setled at 3£ apiece but they don't tarry long at that, but Soon Rise.

Oct 17, 1756. I Enter'd the 39th year of my Age. this year I Tan 49 Hides & 106 Calfskins.

March 28, 1757. I Bo't 18 acres of Land of Benj^a Hoag.

Apr I Bo't a Cow of Jn^o Neal.

May 27, 1757. our Daughter Bathsheba Born.

Sept 5, 1757. my Sister Bathsheba Died.

Sept 7, 1757. I and my Wife & son Joshua all taken ill about this time with a fever which prevailed much among us: and my Life Despaired of and I paid Dr Gilman 75£ for Doctering us — in Dollers about 3£ apiece.

this year the War is verry Severe; Fort W^m Henry at Lake George is taken, and we Defeated every where. memo^m I pd Dr Gilman 25 Dollars for Doctering my Self & wife & Son Joshua in a fever; as above Mentioned.

Oct 17, 1757. I Enter'd the 40th year of my Age.

this year I Tan 43½ Hides & 130 Calfskins.

June 1758. I Built my 2nd Work House in my Tan-yard.

July & Aug. 1758. I Bo't of Walter Bryent Esq^r Collector of Taxes for Bow Sundry Rights & Tracts of Land in Bow at Vendue.

1758. Louisburg taken this year the 2nd time and we had Considerable Success in y^e War.

Oct 17, 1758. I Enter'd the 41st year of my Age. this year I Tan 57 Hides & 140 Calfskins, which is the Most that ever I Taned in a year.

June 1759. my Family had the Measles.

Mar. I Bo't one Acre & quarter Land of m^r Mason.

1759. we have Wonderful Success in the War — Quebeck in Canada & many other places taken.

July 21, 1759. Marstons Prescots time out with me

and I am trying to carry on My Business with my own Sons & hiring Some help. about this time I began to keep Steers to work. The War makes Paper Money verry Plenty tho' but little worth: and he that is in Debt about this time may verry Easily get out, if he is a good Husband.

Oct 17, 1759. I Enter'd the 42nd year of my Age. this year I tan 47 Hides & 68 Calfskins.

Febr 16, 1760. this week past my 2 Sons Sam^l in the 14th & Joshua in the 12th year of their Ages made 14 pair of womens Pumps.

Apr 3, 1760. I Bo't of Nathan Hoag 2 Acres & 98 Rod of Land which he Bo't of Andrew Wiggin y^e 3rd.

May 9, 1760. I Bo't my Desk & Book-Case of Eph^m Barker for 100£ old Ten^r.

May 16, 1760. our Son Jabez Born.

Aug 27, 1760. I Sold a Cow to Jn^o Philbrook for 100£.

Oct 17, 1760. I Enter'd the 43rd year of my Age. this year I tan 30 Hides & 114 Calfskins.

Oct 9, 1760. I Bo't my Cart Wheels of Mr Gove for 30£.

Oct 25, 1760. King George the 2nd Died.

Nov. Murrys Sons taken with the Small Pox: also it was in almost every Town round about more or less.

this year 1760: Morial and the whole Country of Canada was taken.

Febr 1761. I Bo't John Pipers place for 7129£ old Ten^r.

May 28, 1761. Raised an Addition to my Barn.

Oct 17, 1761. I Enter'd the 44th year of my Age. this year I tan 28 Hides & 88 Skins. this year has been a verry Distressing Drought. Corn is Sold at 4£ some 5£ & Some 6£ pr Bushel, and not to be had at any Rate & many People obliged to bye Bisket flower &c &c the

latter end of the year 1761 but more Especially in the begining of 1762.

Aug 21, 1762. I Sold my Horse to Jona Wiggin for 75£.

Sept 16, 1762. I Bo't a White Mare of Jn^o Jewet gave 200£.

Oct 17, 1762. I Enter'd the 45th year of my Age. this year I tan 45 Hides & 65 calfskins.

Oct 26, 1762. our Daughter Mary Married to Jn^o Crocket.

March 1763. about this time Corn & Hay is Exceding Scarce & Dear. English Hay is Sold for about 120£. Some 130£ o Tn^r a Load and Salt 80£. In the Month corn is Sold at 5£ & 5£ 10^s & Some 6£ pr Bushel. Some Hay Sold for a Doller a Hundred w^h goes for 7£.

July 4, 1763. I Bo't a pair of Small Steers of Sam^l Chapman about 4 y^r old gave him 250£.

July 1763. I Sold a yoke of fat oxen to Jn^o Derbon one for 7^s tother for 7/6 pr lb: & I See him Sell Some of it for 8^s pr lb money Down. Now Money is verry plenty & little worth. a Doller goes for 7£.

the year 1763. I made 53 Barrels of Syder.

Oct 17, 1763. I Enter'd the 46th year of my Age. this year I Tan 57 Hides & 49 Calfskins.

Feb 11, 1764. I Bo't mr Henrys Exposition of y^o Bible which Cost me 240£. pd part of it in Dollers 7£ apiece. I also Bo't many other Books about this time.

Sept 16, 1764. our Grandaughter Mary Crocket Born.

Oct 17, 1764. I Enter'd the 47th year of my Age. this year I Taned 22½ Hides & 41 Calfskins. Money growing Scarce, Beaf has fell from 6^s or 7^s a Pound to 4^s a Pound this year.

Apr 13, 1765. My Mother Died.

July 4, 1765. I was Chose Deacon: being about 46 $\frac{3}{4}$ years old.

Oct 28, 1765. I Bo't 4 Acres of Land of Jms Cate & Since Bo't another piece of him to Make up 5 Acres & 53 Rods. Hay is Sold at Portsm^o this Summer for 20£ a Load old Ten^r.

Oct 17, 1765. I Enter'd the 48th year of my Age. this year I tan'd 26 Hides & 82 Calfskins.

Feb 12, 1766. Jabez taken with the Pain in his Knee.

Apr 1, 1766. Pottles Arbitration about the Pond.

Apr 11, 1766. I was Sworn in a Justice of y^e Peace. a great Uproar in the Country about the Stamp Act.

June 14, 1766. my Father was Kill'd wth y^e Lightning.

July 15, 1766. our Grandson John Crocket Born.

Oct 17, 1766. I Enter'd the 49th year of my Age. this year I Tan 35 Hides & 70 Calfskins. the Act for Lawful Money, or Dollers 6^s apiece takes place about Jan 1st 1766, and 6 pr Cent Interest.

Jan 26, 1767. Benj- Clifford come to live with me.

June 13, 1767. Governor John Wentworth came into y^e Prov^{ce}. corn this year 1767 & last, is pretty plenty Sold for 50^s & 60^s old Ten^r a Bushel. & Beaf 4^s & Some 3^s pr lb. 'tis Said Some have Sold Corn this year for 40^s pr Bushel but not General. Duties this year Laid on Glass Tea &c.

Oct 17, 1767. I Enter'd the 50th year of my Age. this year I Tan 21 Hides & 73 Calfskins.

March 9, 1768. Mov'd the Barn I had of Piper & Mar 23. puled Down the House.

Mar 18, 1768. Bo't 7 Acres 15 Rods of Land of Cornet Wiggin for 800£ old Ten^r.

June 7, 1768. Raised a House for my Son Sam^l.

June 15 & 16. Rais'd the New Meeting House. Note. this Meeting House Cost me about 850£ old Ten^r.

July 20, 1768. Grandson Geo. Crocket Born & oct 11, 1768 he Died.

Sept 28, 1768. I carried my Wife to Kensington to Dr Row, which was the last time we were there together.

Oct 17, 1768. I Enter'd the 51st year of my Age. this year I Tan 34 Hides & 44 Calfskins.

Jan 30, 1769. My Beloved Wife Died Aged 46 years 10 Months & 16 Days. a Holy and Righteous Providence indeed; but an irreparable loss to me & my Children. Note. we Liv'd together 27 years & 26 Days. Note. I am 50 years and 3 Months and 13 Days old.

May 27, 1769. I Raised my Corn-House.

Jan 10, 1769. I Bo't $\frac{1}{5}$ of 5 Acres of Land More or less of Edmund Davis, & the Same quantity of W^m Hart & wife who were mr Emersons Heirs.

May 27, 1769. I Bo't of David Marston Collector a Right in Lovets Town: which I afterwards Sold to Esq^r Drake.

Oct 17, 1769. I Enter'd the 52nd year of my Age. this year I Tan about 12 Hides & 24 Skins, beside what my Sons Tan, who Chiefly manage the yard this year.

Nov 15, 1769. my Son Joshua Married. Aged 21 year 9 M^o 6 D.

Note. Beaf is plenty this fall for 3^s pr lb old Ten^r.

Feb 10, 1770. Grandson Sam^l Crocket Born.

Apr 17, 1770. I Bo't George Veazeys place for 2700£ old Tenor.

May 1770. my Daughters Learned to Weave.

June 20, 1770. 14 Baptists Dip'd at Winecut by m^r Smith of Haverhill.

July. the Canker Worms Do much Damage.

Sept 17, 1770. Grandson James Lane Born. Son Joshuas Son.

Sept 30, 1770. Mr Whitefield Died at Newbury.

Oct 17, 1770. I Enter'd the 53rd year of my Age.

this year I tan about 12 Hides & 30 Skins, beside my Sons.

Oct 25, 1770. my Son Samuel Married aged 24 years & 5 M^o & Nov 3. Mov'd his Wife.

Nov 1, 1770. Son Joshua Mov'd to y^e House I Bo't of Veazey.

Jan 7, 1771. Bo't a Mare of Prescott for 40 Dollers. June 3 Sold her to Wiggin.

Jan 8, 1771. I was at M^r Adams Ordination at Haverhill.

Apr 1, 1771. I Bo't John Robinsons Place for 3200£: old Ten^r.

June 17, 1771. began to put up Joshuas Chimneys.

July 2. Raised a Leanto, to Joshuas House.

Sept 10, 1771. Grandson Ebenezer Lane born.

Sept 24, 1771. Dr Shepherd ordained over the Baptists.

Oct 17th 1771. I Enter'd the 54th year of my Age. this year Son Joshua Tans with me & I have Out about 10 Hides & 28 Skins of my own. this fall & Summer I did abundance of work on Joshuas House, to the Vallue of about 1000£ Cost with Stuff old Ten^r.

Oct 28, 1771. I Bo't a Mare of Jn^o Piper: gave 2 Steers & 8 Sheep call'd 40 Dollers.

Dec 8, 1771. Grandson Stephen Lane Born.

Jan 10, 1772. I Kill'd a Hog weighed 447 lb.

Febr 13, 1772. I Sold my half the 100 Acre Lott belonging to y^e Original Right of Simon Wiggin in Bow, to John Moores for 15£. we had a tedious long Cold Winter begining in Dec 1771. & continuing verry late in the Spring; with deep drifted Snows.

May 19, 1772. I went to Bow as Com^{tee} Man wth Esqr Bryent & Major Weeks & Sold Bow Land to Sundry People.

May 14, 1772. Dau^r Crockets Dau^r Elizabeth Born,
and Died June 27, 1778.

Oct 17, 1772. I Enter'd the 55th year of my Age.
this year Son Joshua Tans with me, and I have had
about 10½ Hides & 27 Skins besides Joshuas to Tan.

1772. Abundance of Syder made this fall in the
Country.

Nov 12, 1772. Son Sam^{ls} Daughter Hannah Born.

Jan 13, 1773. Son Joshua^s Son Joshua Born.

Febr 4th my Daughter Susanna Married.

March 17. my Dau^r Clarks goods Set off to North-
wood.

March 19. my Dau^r Clark went to live at Northwood.

here follows a pretty near Correct Account of the
price of Hides & Shoes from Anno 1739 to Anno. 1769,
all in old Tenor. Note Dollers generally were about y^e
Price of mens Shoes.

Anno.	Hides pr lb	Mens Shoes
	£-s-d	£-s-d
1739	0-0-6	0-18-0
1740	0-0-6	0-18-0
1741	0-0-6	0-18-0
1742	0-0-6	1- 0-0
1743	0-0-8	1- 4-0
1744	0-0-8	1- 4-0
1745	0-0-8	1- 4-0
1746	0-0-8	1- 4-0
1747	0-0-9	1- 7-0
1748	0-1-6	2-14-0
1749	0-1-4	2-14-0
1750	0-1-4	2-14-0
1751	0-1-4	2-14-0
1752	0-1-6	2-14-0
1753	0-1-6	2-14-0
1754	0-1-6	2-14-0
1755	0-1-8	3- 0-0
1756	0-2-0	3-12-0
1757	0-2-6	4-10-0
1758	0-3-0	5-10-0
1759	0-3-0	6- 0-0
1760	0-3-0	6-10-0

Anno.	Hides pr lb	Mens Shoes
	£-s-d	£-s-d
1761	0-3-6	6-10-0
1762	0-3-6	7- 0-0
1763	0-4-0	7-10-0
1764	0-4-0	7-10-0
1765	0-4-0	7-10-0
1766	0-4-0	7-10-0
1767	0-4-0	7- 0-0
1768	0-4-0	7- 0-0
1769	0-4-0	6- 0-0

the above prices is Something near the thing, but many times things would be floating up & down in the prices and there would be Several prices at one time as people could get things: and Several prices rising within one year.

Oct 17th 1773. I Enter'd the 56th year of my Age. This year Son Joshua Tans with me: and I have but 4 Hides & 10 Calfskins of my own to Tan.

Jan 20, 1774. Grand Daughter Mary Clark Born. Died aug 10, 1793 in the 20th year of her Age.

March 25, 1774. I was Chose Town Clerk.

May 16. Grandson Ephraim Crocket Born.

This year there are great Commotions in the Nation and this Land about the Tea that was Destroy'd in Boston last Winter; and by Act of Parliament the Port of Boston is Shut up on the first Day of June 1774.

June 22nd, 1774. I was Married to my Second Wife: Note. She was Born [at Cape Ann] June 29 1726 old Stile & her Birth Day comes on July 10 N Stile. my Wife is 7 years 9 M^o & 7 Days younger yⁿ I.

July 27, 1774. I Bo't 4 Common Rights in Bow, of Collector Bryent for 41/.

Aug 12, 1774. Son Samuels Son Samuel Born.

Sept 6, 1774. Son Joshuas Daur Sarah Born.

Sept 22, 1774. I Remov'd my Wife from Newmarket to Stratham.

Sept 1774. a Congress of Deligates from all the American Colonies is held at Philadelphia to Consult on Measures for the Publick good, in this Difficult Day. at the above Congress an Estimate of the Number of Souls was Made in the following Provinces, viz. Massachusetts 400,000. New Hampshire 150,000. Rhode Island 59,678. Conecticut 192,000. New York 250,000. New Jersey 130,000. Pensylvania including y^e lower Counties 350,000. Maryland 320,000. Virginia 650,000. North Carolina 300,000. South Carolina 225,000. Total 3,026,678. as in New Hampshire Gazzett N^o. 944. Note: 'tis Said New Hampshire is over Estimated.

Oct 17th 1774. I Enter'd the 57th year of my Age. This year Son Joshua Tans with me, & I have but 6 Hides & 16 Skins of my own to tan.

Oct 17, 1774. I went to Barnstead to See my Land: also to Gilmantown & Lodg'd: came home oct 19.

Jan 10, 1775. I was taken with the Chollick.

Note. 1775. this Spring comes on a Civil War, and the most Difficult times ever known in this Age: the Course of Law & Courts of Justice are Stop'd and almost all Publick affairs are carried on & transacted by Congresses & Committees, throu' the most of this Continent.

April 19, 1775. a Number of Regular Troops began Hostilities at Lexington & Concord; Kill'd 8 or 10, of the People of those Towns, in the Battle, & Wounded Many more: also Kill'd & Wounded many of other Towns in their Retreat: this Allaram'd the whole Continent; and a larg Army was Soon Rais'd & Sent to Cambridge for the Defence of these Colonies, under Gen. Washington.

May 17, 1775. I went on the Congress at Exeter; which Continued 6 Months by Adjournments.

June 1775. we had a verry Distressing Drought hav-

ing had Scarcely Any rain this Spring & a famine was greatly feared.

June 17, 1775. Charlstown was Burnt, and a verry hot Battle betwixt the Regular & our Army: and Many Kill'd on both Sides; and the Regulars Recovered our ground at Bunkers Hill; Maj^r M^cClary was Kill'd. Note. a great Fleet of Ships; & Army of Regular Troops, are Now in Possession of Boston to Distress this Country.

Oct 17, 1775. I Enter'd y^e 58 year^r of my Age, which I forgot to put down as Usual.

Oct. 19, 1775. the Regulars Burnt the Town of Falmouth, or Casco Bay: upon which the People of Portsmouth Remov'd into the Country at a Vast Expence: Expecting to Share the Same fate verry Soon: & the Province immediately in great Numbers, went to Building fortifications in the Harbour of Portsmouth.

this Winter An Army is kept at our Forts in Portsmouth Harbour; as well as at Cambridge &c.

We had a verry good Crop of Indian Corn this fall; but Short Crops of English, & of Hay.

March 1776. about the Middle of this Month the Regular fleet & Army left Boston; & our People went in.

March 11, 1776. Daughter Clarks Dau^r Susanna Born.

June 15, 1776. Son Joshuas Son Daniel Born.

July 23rd 1776. Son Samuels Son William Born.

Note. this Spring our Army at Canada were driven back to Crown Point by the Regulars; they being weak, & Sick with the Small Pox: and we Sent a Reinforcement to them.

Apr 25, 1776. Daughter Martha Married.

July 4th, 1776. The Grand Congress at Philadelphia Declar'd the 13 United Colonies to be Independent States.

this Spring our Army was Driven from Canada and Many of them Died of the Small Pox, & Camp Ail.

also this Summer or fall our fleet on the Lake was taken & Destroy'd by the Regulars.

also this Summer New York, Long Island &c are taken possession of by the Regular Army.

Oct 17th 1776. I Enter'd the 59th year of my Age. Son Joshua tans with me, I had but 8½ Hides & 18 Calfskins.

Jan 15, 1777. Daughter Bathsheba Married, and

Jan 25, Daughter Bathsheba Set off to Samborntown.

Jan 20, 1777. I took a Deed of David Chapman & Wife of 7 Acres of Land to Son Joshua, for which I paid 40£.

Febr 14, 1777. I took a Deed of Joseph Mason of his home place for which I paid him 6000£ old Tenor, or 300£ Lawful Money.

Apr 14, 1777. Grandson James Crocket Born.

April Mr Adams began to be Melancholly.

May 26. I Set out to Visit my Daughter Clark at Samborntown 1st time.

this Spring abundance of Warlike Stores, that came from France are Carted from Portsm^o to Cambridge &c.

July 5, 1777. Daughter Bordmans Son Stephen Born.

Sometime this Summer the Regulars took Possession of Philedelphia and also of Ticonderoga: and in oct. we took Burgoins Army.

this year our Paper Money Sinks Amazingly.

This year has been Remarkable for the Sinking of the Vallue of our Paper Currency, which has been Made in great Quantities, for Carrying on the War, both by the Congress, & the States; & much Counterfiet.

The begining of this year 1777, a Regulating Act was pass'd, Setting Corn at 3/6 pr Bushel, and other things about that proportion; Notwithstanding little or no

Notice was taken of the Act, but little while: and within a few Months Corn was Sold 3 or 4 Dollars pr Bushel. Rum 10 Dollars (& Some More) pr Gallon Mollasses 40^s pr Gallon. Sugar 4^s pr lb. Hides 1^s & Some 1/6 pr lb. and Every thing at Such a Rate, & Altering & rising so fast, that we know not how to trade: & 'tis more proffit to lay Still, than to work up our Stock.

Syder is verry Plenty this fall, Sold at 6 Dollars pr Barrel.

Many are Enoculating for the Small Pox in some places.

Aug 1, 1777. I Bo't a Common Right & a half in Bow of Br Clark for 36^s.

We have a great time of Health; but Many Lives lost in the War.

The States Money has been Cal'd in this year.

Oct 17, 1777. I Enter'd the 60th year of my Age. This year Son Joshua Tans in his own yard, & I having but little help, & much Husbandry work to do, & Strength failing I tan but little, only 9 Hides & 4 Calf-skins.

Jan & Febr This year 1778. Son Jabez work'd wth Mr Foster 5 Weeks and learn'd to Make Cloth Shoes, and Does Considerable at that and other light work.

May 21, 1778. Son Joshuas Son Josiah Born.

June 7, 1778. My Money Stole out of my Desk, being about 280 Continental Dollars & the Vallue of 70 Dollars in hard Money.

June 26, 1778. Son Samuels Dau^r Elizabeth Born.

June 27. Grandaughter Elizabeth Crocket Died.

June 18, 1778. the Regular Army left Philadelphia.

Aug 20. Sold a Yoke of Steers, Coming in 4, for 200 Dol^s to Gidⁿ Colcord.

This Summer many People are Distress'd for Corn, being Scarce & Dear. Some sold for 5, 6, 8, & Some Say

10 Dollars pr Bushel and Many Can't get it; & are obliged to live without.

1778. This fall Syder is Extreem Scarce through the Country: I Sold 2 Barrels in the Winter to Jonaⁿ Clark for 60 Dollars.

The War Still Continuing & Money Depreciating verry fast makes the times verry Difficult.

There is in general a great measure of health.

Whereas on the 7th Day of April last, the Training Soldiers, together with the Alarm List, being Met together at the Meeting House, in order to procure a Number of Men to Engage in the Continental Army &c — they Voted “that every Person in this Town that had done Duty in the present War, either by himself or by his Money, Shall have a Reasonable Allowance for the Same, by a Committee to be Chosen for that purpose: and that the Same be done as near as may be, in Such a Manner, as that Every Person may be Set on a Level, as to what he had done before that time; and for the future to proceed in a way of Town Tax, to Raise Money to hire Men that were wanting for three years in the Army.”

And a Number of Respectable Inhabitants of this Town now Earnestly Requesting that the Committee Should proceed to Settle that Affair as near as may be &c.

Therefore Said Committee, hereby Notifie all Concern'd, to meet them at Mrs Love Chases, on Monday Next, at 1 o'Clock in the afternoon, to Consider on the Legality of that Affair; and Consult and Act what may then be Judged proper.

Stratham Feb. 5th 1778.

Simon Wiggin	} Com ^{tee}
Benja ⁿ Barker	
Daniel Clark	
Jona ⁿ Robinson	
Sam ^l Lane	

Oct 17th 1778. I Enter'd the 61st year of my Age. This year I Tan only 4 Hides & 11 Calfskins.

our Paper Currency Sinks more & more every year to an Amazing Degree.

we have a good Crop of Corn this fall; and 'tis Sold at 6 Dol^s a Bushel: and that is much higher in proportion than other things are generally Sold at. But Corn Soon gets to 8, 10, 20, 30, and Some to 40 or 50 Dollars a Bushel, and Sticking at no price if the Starving byer co'd get it; and the Seller Never Seem'd to know how to Ask enough, before the harvest in the year 1779 came in, which was verry plentiful through the Country.

1778. Scarcely any Syder is made in the Country this fall.

1779, Jan 28. John Crocket & his family Remov'd to Northwood.

1779, July 9. Grandaughter Elizabeth Clark Born.

1779, July 31. Grandson William Bordman Born.

1779. This Summer our Fleet & Army at Penobscut were Defeated.

1779. This Summer Considerable Siberian Wheat is Raised in this Town, & Sold for 60 Dollars a Bushel, or 4 Bushels of Corn; & in the latter part of the Season for Extravagant prices.

1779. This Summer Provisions have been Extreemly Scarce and Dear throu' the Country, and many have Suffer'd Extreemly, & tis Said Some have Died for want.

1779. Syder is verry plenty this fall at 20 Dollars pr Barrel.

Oct 17th, 1779. I Enter'd the 62nd year of my Age. This year I tan 8½ Hides & 16 Calfskins.

This fall we have a Remarkable larg Crop of Indian Corn throughout the Country, and Siberian Wheat is in great Demand for Seed, far & near.

1779. our Paper Money Continues to Depreciate in a remarkable Manner, notwithstanding much pains has been taken by Conventions of the States, to prevent it, by Stipulating prices to almost every Article; & endeavouring to oblige people to Stand by them, by Publishing the Names of those that refused to Sell by the Stipulated prices; but all prov'd in vain, for then people wo'd not Sell what they had; and the Seaport Towns almost perished for want of provisions; and in Stead of preventing the Rise of things, it greatly increased it; and many things Soon Doubled the Stipulated prices. But few People wo'd take Paper Money the former part of this year, almost all our trading is by Swaping & Bartering one thing for Another. Silver Money Comes in Use & is Considerable plenty; tho' much Sunk in its Vallue. Paper Money Sunk about three quarters in its Vallue within one year; and a Paper Dollar is generally Call'd about as good as a Copper was before the War.

1780. Provisions pretty plenty, Corn Especially; being Sold for 50 Dollars a Bushel. Beaf 4 or 5 Dollars pr lb. Butter 12 Dollars, Cheese 8 Dollars pr lb. Paper Money in the latter part of this year, passes verry Current & is verry Scarce. Westindia goods plenty & Cheap, Rum about 80 Dollars a Gallon. Mollasses about 50. Sugar 8 Dollars pr lb &c. Abundance of Syder made this fall.

March 26, 1780. My House took fire.

May 19, 1780. The Dark Day.

Aug 14, 1780. Son Joshuas Son Abr^m Born, & Died Dec 19, 1780.

Aug 15, Son Samuels Son James Born.

Charlstown in South Carrolina taken by the Brittons.

Oct 17th 1780. I Enter'd the 63rd year of my Age. this year I tan'd (with Jabez) 8 Hides & about 26 Calfskins. our Paper Money has Sunk (I Suppose)

three quarters of its Vallue within one year, viz in 1780, a Paper Dollar being now generally Call'd about as good as 1 Copper was before the War.

1780. This fall General Arnolds Plot against West Point was Discovered; and Maj^r Andre Hanged as a Spy.

Sept 7. Sold my Oxen to Son Bordman for 90 hard Dollars.

This fall are terrible Hurricanes in the West Indias.

Dec 19, 1780. Son Joshuas Son Abraham Died.

Note. the Latter End of the year 1780, & begining of 1781 Paper Money was in as good Credit as Silver; (the common Exchange being about 75 paper for 1 Silver Dollar; and in many Sorts of trading a paper Dol^r is Call'd Equal to a Copper) & it Seem'd to be Scarce, & every one trying to get all he co'd of it, but in the month of May 1781, almost all at once, it fell away (the old Emission) to Nothing; & no body wo'd take it for any thing Except the Court order'd the Constables to take it about a Month, for what Rates they had out, and the New Emission is not in much better Credit, but passes at about a pistereen for a New Emision Dollar.

1781. a good Crop of Hay; but a terrible Drought & Rust & Meldew cut Short our English grain (Siberian Wheat Especially) in a remarkable manner; much Wheat was not Reaped, and the Drought had like to have Cut off our indian Corn but it So far Recover'd as that in general there was near a Midling Crop.

Oct 17th 1781. I Enter'd 64 year of my Age. this year I taned (with Jabez) 10 Hides & 23 Calfskins.

Oct 19, 1781. Cornwallis & his Army in Virginia Surrendred to General Washington & the French forces United.

Dec 3, 1781. Daur Bordmans Son Samuel Born.

Jan 17, 1782. Son Joshuas Daughter Mary Born.

Apr 1782. Daughter Sarah Sick of a Fever.

May 30, 1782. I Rais'd an Addition to my Barn, & Built my Shed.

The most Remarkable Events of the year 1782, is an Uncommon Rust or Meldue, with a Remarkable Drought Exceeding that of the last year which Cut off almost all our Summer Grain Siberian Wheat Especially, within about 30 Miles of the Sea; so that Scarcely a Bushel that I can hear of is raised in any of our lower Towns: but in the Upper Towns, verry great Crops of Grain, & plenty of Rain. Corn this fall Sold for 9 or 10^s pr Bushel; Butter 2^s & Some have Ask'd 3^s pr lb. Beaf Sold generally 3^d pr lb & much of it Sold to the French Men of War at Portsm^o.

a Short Crop of Indian Corn; but good Crop of Hay. but little Syder this year; the Worms Destroy many orchards.

Nothing Remarkable in the War this year, Except in the West Indias, the Brittish Destroyed Abundance of the French fleet: & Many of their Ships Came here, at Boston & Portsm^o to Repair, which brought abundance of Silver Money, & made it very plenty amongst us, the latter end of the year 1782.

Oct 17th 1782. I Enter'd the 65th year of my Age. this year I & Jabez tan'd 22½ Hides & 27 Calfskins.

Jan 20, 1783. Daughter Sarah Married.

Feb 10, 1783. Dau^r Sarahs goods went from my House.

Feb 11, 1783. Dau^r Sarah Set out for Samborntown.

Feb 28. Son Samuels Son John Born & Died Sept 20, 1803.

1783. this Spring a Happy Peace between Great Brittain and America takes place, after 8 years Civil War.

Apr 16, 1783. great Grandson Benj^a Hill Born.

this Spring Jabez, Eunice, Benj^a & Dinah had the Measles.

a terrible Scarcity of Provisions before the Peace and 'tis probable had the War Continued this Summer, many people would have perished for want of food; corn before the Peace was Sold at 10 & 12^s a Bushel, & not to be had at any Rate: but after the Peace provisions were bro't from the Southern States; Corn Sold 9^s a Bushel.

July 28, 1783. I Bo't 5 Acres & 117 Rods of Land in Epping of Reuben Levit.

Sept 27, 1783. Grandson Daniel Tompson Born.

Oct 2, 1783. Son Jabez Married.

Dec 9, 1783. mr Fellows Bro't Joshua^s Clock.

Oct 17th 1783. I Enter'd the 66th year of my Age. This year I and Jabez tan'd uncertain how many Hides & calfskins.

Febr 1, 1784. Grandson James Clark Born.

Febr 24, 1784. I gave my 2 Eldest Daughters, Each a Clock.

Mar 14, 1784. Grandaughter Bety Bordman Born. Died July 9th 1798.

June 23, 1784. I Carried Dau^r Bordman a Clock.

July 4, 1784. Son Joshua had a Son Born, which lived but 3 Days.

Oct 17, 1784. I Enter'd the 67th year of my Age. This year I & Jabez tan'd 18 Hides & 36 Skins.

Oct 26, 1784. Bo't a [50 acre] Lot of Land in Chichester of Robert Tufton Philbrook.

Dec 27, 1784. Son Jabez^s Daughter Anna Born.

Feb 3, 1785. Mr Fellows Set up 2 Clocks, in my Daughters Tompsons & Clarks Houses at Samborntown.

Febr 24, 1785. Rev'd mr Adams Died.

June 6, 1785. I went to Samborntown: perhaps y^o last time.

Sept 2, 1785. Dau^r Tompsons Son James Born.

Money is Exceeding Scarce this year.

March 20, 1785. Great Grandson John Hill Born.

Oct 17th 1785. I Enter'd the 68th year of my Age. this present year I tan'd about 6 Hides & 11 Skins, beside Jabez^s.

Febr 1, 1786. Mr Miltimore ordained.

Apr 13, 1786. Son Samuels Dau^r Mary Born. Died Dec 8 1796.

May 31, 1786. I Sold my Right in Effingham to L^t Drake.

Apr 27, 1786. I Bo't the little Parsonage at 43 Dol^{pr} Acre.

memd^m. Money Continues Exceeding Scarce; hardly any to be got for Any thing: nobody pretends to pay any Debts Except by Cattle &c: a great Clamour in the Country for Paper Money to be Made; a Mobb Appear'd at Exeter to Enforce it; who imprisoned the General Court in the Meeting House on Sept 20, 1786. who were Dispersed & taken by the Militia, the Next Day.

People verry Uneasie under Publick Debts & Burthens they Complain of, not only in this State, but in Massachusetts, frequent Mobbs are Arising, & the Militia have taken & imprisoned Some of them, & Dispersed others.

The General Court & Head Men of Massachusetts have come into Associations, to discourage the Excessive Use of foreign Articles; & Encourage industry frugality &c in order to Recover a Circulating Medium, & restore publick Credit, and are Making Laws for that purpose &c.

Oct 17, 1786. I Enter'd the 69th year of my Age. this year I tan'd about 6 Hides & 15 Calfskins, beside Jabez^s.

Jan 28, 1787. Son Jabez^s Dau^r Martha Born.

May 12, 1787. great grand Dau^r Elizabeth Hill Born.
 Sept 3, 1787. Dau^r Susanna Clarks Son Jonathan Born.

this year I gave a Number of my Notes to my Children.

Oct. 17th 1787. I Enter'd the 70th year of my Age.
 this year I taned but 2 Hides & 9 Calfskins, besides Jabez^s.

Apr 21, 1788. Daughter Tomsons Dau^r Salle Born.

June 10, 1788. Son Samuels Son Levi Born. Died
 Nov. 11, 1789.

Aug. 18, 1788. Son Joshuas Son Mark Born.

Memorandum, Dec. 1. 1789. I went to Portsm^o & fell off my Horse coming home; which I forget to Note in its proper place. Note. I am in the 72nd year of my Age.

Oct 17, 1788. I Enter'd the 71st year of my Age.
 this year past I Tan'd 6 Hides & 1 Horsehide & 8 Calfskins.

March 10, 1789. Son Jabez^s Dau^r Mary Born.

Apr 10, 1789. Dau^r Bordmans Dau^r Martha Born.

Oct 4, 1789. Great Grandson George W Crocket Born.

March 4, 1789. The Federal Congress met first at New York.

June 1, 1789. I Set out with Son Jabez, & went to Boston.

Oct 17, 1789. I Enter'd the 72nd year of my Age.

Apr 16, 1790. great grand Son Dudley Hill Born.

This year I Did little or no work in the Tanyard; My Strength failing, & but little help; I got but 2 Hides and 5 Calfskins which Jabez Tan'd with his.

Nov. 11, 1789. Son Samuels Son Levi Died.

June 3, 1790. Son Joshuas Dau^r Hannah Born.

July 5, 1790. I Bo't 52 Acres & 30 rods of woodland

of Eph Robinson for 417½ Dollars. this year I hired the most of my work done, being able to do but little abroad or within, Except order Business, &c. Note. Money which has for Some years past Been Exceeding Scarce begins to Circulate and grow plentier.

Oct 17th 1790. I Enter'd the 73rd year of my Age. Note. Money begins to be pretty plenty.

Nov 1, 1790. Dau^r Tomsons Son Matthew Born.

Note. There are Considerable Religious Commotions in Many places: and the Baptist Scheem prevails much.

Apr 30, 1791. great grandson John Crocket Born.

July 14, 1791. Son Jabez^s Son George Born.

Note. it is generally Said by knowing Men that Money is full plenty enough for the benefit of Trade.

Oct 17, 1791. I Enter'd the 74th year of my Age.

Dec. Grandson Samuel Crockets Son William Born.

Sept 18, 1792. my Daughter Mary Crocket Died, Aged 48 years, 2 M^o & 4 Days I think.

Memd^m. within these few years past, this, and a Number of other States, have Set up Banks, of Notes, which makes Money plenty; and it is generally Said, that Money is full plenty enough.

Memd^m May 30, 1791. I Set out (with Son Joshua) to Visit my children at Samborntown: which I Expect to be the last time. June 4th came home.

Oct 17th 1792. I Enter'd the 75th year of my Age.

Jan 18, 1793. Bo't Eben^r Barkers Pew for 10£.

Jan 12, 1793. Son Joshuas Daughter Abigael Born, also the Same Day Dau^r Tomsons Son Samuel Born.

from Aug. 1793. to Nov^r a terrible fever raged in Philadelphia of which by the Newspapers, 4031 persons Died, and Since by a more Correct Account the Number is Said to be many more.

Aug. 10, 1793. Grand Daughter Mary Clark Died in 20th year of her age.

also this Summer fall &c 1793, and Winter following, is a terrible War and Commotions & Destruction of Lives & property, in France & other European Nations; Such Havoc never before known, beheading & Murdering one Another; and the Brittish taking Numbers of our Vessels &c in time of Peace because we Carry provisions to the French &c.

Oct 17, 1793. I Enter'd the 76th year of my Age.

Febr 20, 1794. I was taken with a Rheumatic Pain and Soreness & Swelling in my Right foot which held about 4 months. Then about June 20, I was taken with the like pain & Soreness & Swelling in my left foot, which did not hold verry long.

March 7, 1794. Son Jabez^s Daughter Elisabeth Born.

By News-paper Accounts, Such Destruction was Never before known to be made of mens lives & properties, as has been for a year or two, in France, & the Nations at War; beheading & Murdering their principle Men; and thousands Slain in Battles &c and they by their New invented Masheens, to cut off 6 or 7 Mens Heads at a Blow, Seem to make no more Difficulty in Cutting off their great Mens Heads, than we do of a Sheeps Head.

Oct 17, 1794. I Enter'd the 77th year of my Age.

June 18, 1795. my Sister Mary Shaw Died.

Note. in the 77th year of my Age, I began to be hard of hearing.

Aug 1795. Grandson Joshua Lane went to Colledge.*

Oct 17th 1795. I Enter'd the 78th year of my Age.

Nov. 5, 1795. Son Joshua^s Daur Sarah Married.

Jan 14th 1796. Son Samuels Daur Hannah Married.

about Feb. 16, 1796. I began to be Lame in my feet (as I was about 2 years ago) which held till the Begining of March.

* He graduated from Harvard College in 1799.

All the Necessaries of Life are Extreemly high this Winter; Corn 5^s & 6^s a Bushel, Wheat near 2 Dollars; and Beaf 32 to 36 Dols a Hundred: Rye 7/6 & 8^s a Bushel; and Money Exceeding plenty: Labour Exceeding high, I gave Jn^o Stockbridg Jun^r 15½ Dollars a Month, Haying.

May 20. my Brother Ebenezer Died in the 63rd year of his Age.

Aug 9, 1796. I began to be verry Deaf, & Dizey headed.

Oct 9, 1796. great Grandson Enoch French Born.

Oct 17, 1796. I Enter'd the 79th year of my Age.

Dec 9, 1796. Son Samuels Dau^r Mary Died.

Febr 18, 1797. Sold a Yoke of fat oxen to Reuben Gove Derbon for 90 Dollars. everything Bought & Sold among us runs Exceding high; the cause of which in a great measure is Supposed to be the great plenty of Money (especially Bank Notes) which is Supposed to be the cause of some peoples going into a Luxurious way of Living beyond their income &c.

July 4, 1797. Capt Norris bro't a Yoke of Oxen, 65 Dollars.

Sept 13, 1797. I left off Drinking Tea.

about Sept 1797, My Daughter Bathsheba took a great cold; & a humour Setled in her eyes; and they Swelled up, & were verry painful; and She lost her Sight, as we hear.

Son Jabez Son Charles Born Nov 27, 1796.

Oct 17th 1797. I Enter'd y^e 80th year of my Age. This Winter, 1797, and 1798, I am Healthier than I have been Several Winters before: but verry Deaf.

Dec 25, 1797. Jabez Bo't half Saw Mill. 50 Dol^s.

March 28, 1798. Sold Son Bordman a Yoke of Steers 4 years old for 50 Dollars, and a Calf 6 Weeks old for 2 Dollars.

Mar. 17, 1798. this Week I made my Self & Jms Rolings, Each a pair of Shoes.

Mar 1798. great grand Daughter —— Hill Born.

July 9, 1798. Grand Daughter Bety Bordman Died in her 14th year. this Summer Congress are Building and fitting out Ships of War, to Defend our Vessels against the French privateers; who have taken abundance of our Shiping.

1798. this Summer we have had a terrible Drought; Exceeding hot weather, Night and Day for a long time, and in Aug & Sept^r a most Distressing yellow fever & Disintery prevailed in Philadelphia, New York, Boston, Portsmouth & many other most populous Towns throu' the Country, which carried off many thousands of its inhabitants.

Oct 16, 1798 great GrandDau^r Mary French Born.

Oct 17th 1798. I Enter'd the 81st year of my Age.

Grand Son Stephen Lanes Dau^r Born.

We have had a tedious long Winter, begining the 17th of Nov^r & held near 6 Months; Hay Universally Scarce through the Country: Many Cattle Died.

great Grand-Son Charles Folsom Born June 5th.

I am verry feeble and Dizzey this Summer & fall; not able to Do much work. we have a pretty Comfortable Crop of Hay and Corn, but not much Syder this year. Syder about 2 Dollars a Barrel at Portsmouth. a pretty general time of Health.

Son Jabez Son Andrew Colcord Born July 1. 1799

Oct 17, 1799. I Entered the 82nd year of my Age.

Febr 16th the great Toe of my Right foot began again to be Sore.

Febr. 23. Grandson Samuel Lane Married.

this Spring I had a Blister rose on my Right Shin, pretty Sore, and afterwards another on my left Shin, which held Sometime.

1800. This Spring & Summer, my Strength fails

Exceedingly So that I can do but verry little work:
 Son Jabez has undertook to get my Hay; & most of my
 other work.

Apr 11, 1800. Dinah went off from us.

Oct 17, 1800. I Enter'd the 83rd year of my Age.

memd^m I Enjoy as Comfortable a measure of Health
 as I can Expect for my years: but I have but little
 Strength for any Business.

Dec 4, 1800. Grandson Joshua Lane Preach'd his 1st
 Sermon at Hampton.

Febr 8, 1801. Grandson Josiah Lane Married.

June 10, 1801. my Daughter Susanna Clark Died,
 Aged 50 years, 10 M^o & 17 Days, if I Calculate Right.

Sept 9, 1801. Grandson Joshua Lane Married to
 Elisabeth Eaton.

Febr 4. Mathew Tomson bro't me oxen 4 y^s old last
 Spring for 50 Dol^s. I Sold them to Son Jabez.

Oct 17, 1801. I Enter'd the 84th year of my Age.

May 13, 1802. My great toes began to be Sore as
 Usual & held about a Week.

Sept 5, 1802. my Sight fails me in Reading, specially
 in dark weather.

Oct 17, 1802 I Enter'd the 85th year of my Age, and
 am verry feeble and my Strength fails verry Much, but
 enjoy as much Health as I can Expect at this Age.

Dec 15, 1802. Dau^r Tomsons Son Samuel Died Aged
 10 years lacking 4 Weeks old.

June 19th 1803. My Daughter Bordman Died Aged
 48 years 4 Months lacking 3 Days.

Sep 20, 1803. Grandson John Lane Died.

Dec 4, 1803. Grand Son William Lane Died.

Dec 31. My Right foot [began to pain me].

Oct 17, 1803. I Enter'd the 86th year of my Age.

The following entries were made on the last pages of
 this Digest:

two truths vizt —

That Compassion is as Essential a part of the Character of a truly Brave Man, as Daring.

And that Insult offer'd to a Person Entirely in the Power of the Insulter, Smells as Strong of Cowardice as it does of Cruelty.

New York Feb 5, 1788.

The Numbers in the Different States, According to the Most Accurate Accounts which could be obtained by the late Federal Convention, were as follows:

in New Hampshire	102,000
in Massachusets	360,000
in Rhode Island	058,000
in Connecticut	202,000
in New York	238,000
in Pensylvania	360,000
in Delaware	037,000
in Maryland	218,000
(including 3-5ths of 80,000 Negroes)*	
in Virginia	420,000
(including 3-5ths of 280,000 Negroes)	
in North Carolina	200,000
(including 3-5ths of 60,000 Negroes)	
in South Carolina	150,000
(including 3-5ths of 80,000 Negroes)	
in Georgia	90,000
(including 3-5ths of 20,000 Negroes)	

The above Account is taken from y^e N. Hamp^r Paper of Feb 20, 1788.

the whole I think is 2,435,000

New Jersey [no entry of population.]

Memd^m the Number of inhabitants in the State of New Hamp^r as in the Newspaper June 30, 1791, is 141,885.

Memd^m M^r Adams^s Sallery was Voted to be 700£ at Dollars 4-10-0 pr Dollar which (I think) is 155½ Dollars, or about 933-6-8 old Ten^r or about 46-13-4 Lawful Money

* See Constitution of the United States, Article I, Section 2.



JABEZ LANE'S POCKETBOOK
In possession of Wallace R. Lane



JABEZ LANE'S POCKETBOOK

DIGEST II — EVENTS OF GENERAL INTEREST

Samuel Lane's Journal from 1737

Extracted from my Daily Journals

Cold and Heat Summer and Winter Shall not Cease.

Gen. 8.22

Hail Snow and Vapour, Stormy Wind fulfilling his Word. 148. Psal. 8.

He Saith to the Snow, Get thou on the Earth. Job 37.6.

He giveth Snow like Wool; he Scattereth the hoar frost like ashes. He casteth forth his ice like Morsels: who can Stand before his cold. 147 Psal. 16, 17.

The Works of the Lord are great, Sought out of all them that have Pleasure therein. Psal. 111-2.

I will remember the works of the Lord:

Surely I will remember thy wonders of old.

I will meditate also of all thy works, and talk of thy doings. Psalm 77, 11, 12.

Oh that men would Praise the Lord for his goodness, and for his wonderful Works to the Children of Men.

Let them Exalt him also in the Congregation of the People, and Praise him in y^e Assembly of the Elders.

Whoso is Wise and will observe those things, Even they Shall Understand y^e loving kindness of y^e Lord. Psal. 107, 31, 32, 43.

A Brief Account of Some Remarkable Events, relating to the Seasons of the year, Such as verry Cold Difficult Seasons in Winter; Droughts in Summer; Scarcitys, Plentys, times of Remarkable Sickness, Health, Wars &c Since the year Anno. 1737, taken from my Daily Journals.

S. LANE

1737

This year, we had an Exceeding hard Winter, and backward Spring: Hay Exceeding Scarce; (Some Sold for 8^s old Ten^r a Hundred) Creatures were verry poor, and Abundance Died. When the Cry for Hay was a little over; there came on a worse for Corn; and almost as bad for Meat; Many People in our out Towns, were almost ready to faint for want of food: Many in a Day, coming about, and beging of People to Sell them a Peck, half a Peck, & some a quart of Corn; Not Sticking at Any price. But a Comfortable Crop of English grain, put a Stop to this Melancholly Cry. we had a Comfortable Crop of Hay, & more than Common Crop of Indian Corn; and much Pork is fatted by Beech Nuts. it has been verry Healthy. 16 Persons Died in Hampton.

1738

We had this year a Moderate Winter, so that Hay was but about half so dear this Spring as it was last fall. All sorts of Provisions Plenty, (notwithstanding the more than ordinary Scarcity last year) we have a good Crop of Corn and Hay. we had a general time of Health. 22 Persons Died in Hampton this year.

1739

An Exceeding hard Winter; Hay Scarce and Dear; in the Summer a great Crop of Hay: a Comfortable Crop of English; and a Short Crop of Indian Corn. a genral time of Health, Except in the month of March, in which 8 Persons Died in Hampton.

22 Persons Died at Hampton this year.

1740

Moderate Winter: a great Crop of Corn, but verry green: we had in the fall a verry Long Storm of rain &

wet weather, which held 20 Days, in which time there was not one whole fair Day; and it Seem'd a rare Sight to See Sun Moon or Stars. Many Mills Bridges &c were Carried away by the freshet; Cellers full of Water: our Corn being green, Rotted in y^e Chambers, and People were much put to it, for Seed the Next Spring. — a general time of Health.

10 Persons Died in Hampton.

Oct 1, 1740. Mr Whitfield Preached first at Hampton.

1741

We had this year, a terrible hard Winter; Deep Snows; Scarcely Any passing; Except throu' fields, on Snowshoes &c Difficult getting Meal; Hay verry Scarce. — in the Summer a verry good Crop of Grass & Corn. — pretty Healthy.

great Religious Commotions in the Country.

June 11. I Remov'd from Hampton to Stratham. S. Lane.

7 Persons Died in Town Since I Remov'd into it.

1742

We have a Moderate Winter, & fruitful Summer. a terrible Sickly time of the throte Distemper, 95 Persons Died in Stratham this year; 80 of them in 5 Months.

1743

We had a Moderate Winter: and in the Summer a Multitude of Devouring Worms; which oblig'd People to Hurry their Hay into their Barns, to Save it from those Devourers: and 'tis Said that it meerly Stank in their Barns, of the Worms that were Amongst it, in Some places; and Seem'd to Make people Sick while mowing their grass, they were so thick Amongst it.

also Grasshoppers Devoured much Corn & grass.

24 Persons Died in Town this year.

1744

Hard Winter, fruitful Summer, Provisions plenty and People ready to Murmur because they Can't vent off their provisions, which is Sold at about two thirds the price it has been Several years past. — Some part of the year hath been Sickly.

Many People Driven out of the Woods by Indians and people kept Garrison at Newmarket; Alarms Made often. Where I Live, we heard Alarms often, & Horns Sounded on the other Side the River, and People much Distress'd by Indians.

33 Deaths in Town this year.

1745

An Uncommon Moderate Winter, and fruitful Summer; Provisions plenty and Cheap; but Merchants goods verry Dear; Mollasses 14^s or 15^s old Ten^r pr Gal. Cotton wool 15^s pr lb. & Some 18^s Cape Bretton Taken — Rebellion in Scotland.

17 Deaths in Town this year, & 5 Died at Cape Bretton.

1746

Moderate Winter, — a terrible Drought in Summer; which Cut Short both Corn & grass: that Corn, which has for Several years past been Sold for 10^s & 12^s pr Bushel, is early this fall Sold for 20^s and in the Winter 26^s pr Bushel; Pork 20^d pr lb. Salt 40^s 13.

But what is Most Remarkable this year, and ought Never to be forgotten by us in New England, is, that we have by an over Ruling kind Providence, been Delivered, from the formidable designs, of a verry powerful French Fleet, which have been on our Coasts; and Landed at Chebucto; with a Design to overthrow us. which, when we heard of it; put us in great Conster-

nation; and the Country was Alarm'd to be at a Minutes warning: and about the Midle of Sept. we expected them hourly upon us; & people at Portsm^o work'd on Sabbath Days; to fortifie against them. But a kind providence, (& nothing that we did) Disapointed their Designs Against us.

Also the Pretenders Army is Defeated in Scotland.

we had a wonderful time of health. only 10 Persons Died in Town.

This year 3 persons Kill'd by Indians at Notingham in 1 Day.

1747

we have a tedious hard Winter, drifted Snows, difficult passing (so that we were oblig'd to go round by Greenland, to get to Hampton) and in Dec and Jan Exceeding cold, for more than 30 Days together. a fruitful Summer. — The prices of every thing Advanc'd at an Uncommon rate; and the Vallue of our paper Money Sunk Extreemly, which makes Difficult trading.* Hides in a little time rose from 8^d to 18^d, & 2^s & Some 2/6. and other things at an Uncommon Rate — Healthy time

24 Deaths in Town.

* At the beginning of the Day-Book for 1747 he gives an acceptable variety of substitutes for money:

“I think I ought to have according to Rule for Making a pair of Shoes wth other mens Lether

$\frac{2}{3}$ of a Bushel of corn or
 12 lb. of Hide or
 a calfskin or
 12 lb. of Beaf or
 8 lb. of Pork or
 1½ Hundred of English Hay brot home
 or a Days work or
 $\frac{1}{3}$ of a cord of wood or
 4^s–6^d in Money”

The foregoing list throws light on the comparative values of these products.

1748

We had a tedious hard Cold and Most Difficult Winter, by reason of much Snow & bad passing ('tis Said) ever known by Any person now Living. The Cold began Severe about y^e 27th of Nov. & held Constant 26 Days. and on y^e 3rd of Dec. 1747, the Deep Snows began to come; and held near 4 months, so Exceeding Deep; that there was Scarcely any passing in Roads: and with great difficulty throu' fields, on Rivers, and any where that people co'd get along. I counted 25 Snows this Winter, & that in all, they Contain'd about 12 feet in Depth. the 29th Day of March 4 Men & Horses Broke the Way from my House to Esq^r Leavits in the Road; where had been no passing 2 or 3 Months.

This large Body of Snow went away Strangly, without any rain or Land flood; the ground not being froze, it Soak'd into the Earth as it Melted. — this is y^e 2nd hard Winter together.

We had a terrible Drought in the Summer, which cut Short our English Corn & grass verry much: and threatned our Indian Corn; but that Stood it wonderfully.

Much Damage done by fires in the Woods.

17 Persons Died in Town.

1749

a Comfortable Winter — But in April came on a Most Distressing Drought, (Exceeding that last year) which cut off our English Corn & grass; that we had but little Hay and Cattle ready to perish for want of feed. Indian Corn Seem'd almost past recovery: but a lovely rain on the 6th of July bro't it to; so that we had the best crop ever known; which was the principal Support of man & Beast throu' the year. — 'tis wonderful to See how hard people Strive to keep their Cattle alive; many

go, 40, 50, or 60 Miles into the Woods, to Cut Meadows; and Drive them into the Woods & Brouse them: Some cut leaves off trees & carry into their Barns &c for Cattle to live on in Winter.

26 Deaths in Town this year.

1750

a hard Winter, which made it difficult keeping cattle alive, (Hay being cut Short last year) which was done chiefly by Corn Brouse &c — great Quantities of Bass fish are Caught in our River this Winter.

we have a fruitful Summer.

18 Deaths this year.

1751

an Uncommon Moderate Winter; so that the ferry Boat, Cross'd the Salt River every month in y^e Winter. we had a Cold backward Spring; a verry wet Summer a great Crop of Grass. Small Crop of English Corn: and a midling Crop of Indian, which in the begining of Summer was promising, but Cut Short by a terrible Storm on the 30th of July which broke it down. — healthy time.

15 Deaths in Town.

1752

We had a more than common Cold close hard Winter; the Cold Continuing verry Extraordinary, for two full Months; and froze so hard that it was the Common practice to go with Sleds & Sleighs from Boston to Castle William; and Vessels all froze in, as Appears by the Publick prints — a verry Dry Spring — in the Summer a great Crop of Hay; and as great a prospect of a Crop of Corn; but at the 29th of Aug. old Stile came on a Great Frost and kill'd the Corn Stalks; so that they im-

mediately turned white: also kill'd Beans & almost every green thing: and Corn being then in the Milk, was so blasted (especially in out Towns) that there was Scarcely any Sound Corn that year; and People put to great difficulty to get Seed. — And the Spring & Summer following there is Such a Scarcity of provisions both Corn and Meat that it wo'd make almost the hardest Heart Ach, to hear the Complaints of Multitudes of people, ready to famish for want of food; begging for a handful of Corn. But in the Summer 1753, Corn Comes over Sea, and Supplys Many at 45^s a Bushel. — a Wet Summer. a terrible Sickly time in Boston & Towns Adjacent, with the Small Pox, throat Distemper, & Mortal fevers.

23 Deaths in Town.

1753

An open Winter, so that in Febr. gundeloes pass'd from Exeter to Portsm°. great Scarcity of provisions by reason of the frost last year. plentiful Crops of Corn and Grass. — a verry Sickly year throu' y^e Country.

57 Persons Died in this Town the year past.

1754

A Moderate Winter, Remarkable for an Uncommon Cold Day, cuming up Suddenly the 22 of Jan. in which many People out a fishing, & otherwise Expos'd perished. — a fruitful Summer. — pretty Sickly.

38 Deaths in Town.

1755

A Moderate Winter (which is y^e 3rd Successively) a Midling Crop of Hay — a light crop of Corn, being green.

A troublesome year on Account of the War: and

Remarkable for Earthquakes in Divers parts of the World. — pretty healthy

15 Deaths in Town.

1756

a fourth Open Winter Successively; many people Plow'd and fenc'd in the Month of February: and as good Carting as in Summer. — we have a fruitful Summer; and Unfortunate in the War. — Healthy time.

14 Persons Died in Town.

1757

A hard Winter, much Snow; great Scarcity of Hay. verry Sharp Drought in Summer, which cut short the fruits of the Earth. — a terrible Sickly time of fevers in this Town, & other places. — Unfortunate in War.

36 Persons Died in Town, & 4 of its Inhabitants Died in the War this year.

1758

A verry hard Winter, Deep Snows, and the Most difficult passing we have had for 10 years. the latter end of March the Snow being 3 or 4 feet Deep, was hard like ice; and people Sleded upon it, over fences &c Hay Scarce. Wet Summer; much grass; but Corn being green, Stank in our Chambers. — a bad hooping Cough among Children. Successful in War this year. — Corn Sold 4£ a Bushel.

30 persons Died in Town.

1759

we had a Comfortable Winter, & verry Wet Summer and in general the most plentiful year for all Sorts of provisions, and fruits of the Earth, that ever I knew. Corn Sold at half a Dollar a Bushel. — a general time of

Health, Except the Measels, which went through the Country. — But what is Remarkable our Extraordinary Success in the War; the Events of which has Remarkably Chang'd in our favour, from what it has been in Several years past. I'll mention a few hints viz^t. Niagara, Ticondaroga, Crown point, & Quebeck, all given up to us, this year.

46 Deaths this year in Town.

1760

Another Comfortable Winter, & fruitful Summer verry Healthy. — Remarkable Success in the War, especially in the Reduction of Morial, and the whole Country of Canada on the 8th of Sept. — we lost a good King on the 25th of oct.

20 Deaths this year in Town.

1761

we had a pretty hard Winter: but what is Most Remarkable this year, is the most Distressing Drought ever known in this Land, Exceeding that in the year 1749, it cut Short our Hay verry much; & our Corn both English & indian, much More; which makes provisions Exceeding Scarce. — Corn is not to be Bought this Winter 1762. and many People are obliged to Use flower and Bisket for their Common bread. — much Damage was Done by fires in the Drought, Burning Mills Bridges &c.

The rains came on the 19th of aug. this year, and Remarkably renew'd the face of the parched Earth.

18 Deaths this year.

1762

I having Lived more than 44 years in the World; have had opportunity to observe many Events in Providence; that have been Remarkable; which I have Noted

in my Journals; too many, and too long, to Note in these few Leaves; Some of which I have here briefly Mentioned. But I think, of all the years I have Liv'd; this is, on many Accounts, the Most Remarkable; a few instances of which I will here Mention, viz^t we had the most hard Severe, cold long Winter (I believe) ever known; which began the first of December; and held late and backward in the Spring: and many people having large Stocks of Cattle, and but few of them fit to kill; presum'd to keep them over, on a little Hay; trying to keep them alive by Corn Brouse &c hoping for a Moderate Winter: but the Winter proving verry hard, Many Cattle, Horses, Swine, and abundance of Sheep and Lambs Died. (Note I had 5 Horsehides of one Man.)

People were put to Difficulty to get their Plowing done for want of Hay, which was Sold for 100£ a Ton.

But to return to the Winter, I wo'd observe, that we had, not only verry Cold Smart weather; but Deep Drifted Snows; which made it Exceeding difficult passing, & difficult Brousing Cattle in the Woods; which Abundance of People depended upon doing, for want of Hay. — And Corn being Exceeding Short, Especially in our Upper Towns; by the Month of Febr. there was Scarcely any to be bought, and so many People coming about after it, beging & pleading for it, almost in a Starving Condition themselves and familys; that those people amongst us, that had Corn Sufficient for their own familys, could not keep it; but were obliged in Duty to hearken to the Crys of those that had none; (which were Daily about from House to House after it) and to Spare out of their own Stores; at last a quart to one, and a quart to Another; as long as they had Any; and depend upon buying for themselves when the Vessels Came in, that were Expected: and Many that Could

get no Corn, Bought flower and Bisket, and Abundance liv'd on that, for a long time.

About the Middle of March the Vessels began to Come in; and people came down from the Upper Towns, and wo'd Lug the Corn up, throu' the Snow Drifts, leading their Horses; for it was Exceeding Difficult passing. the Corn at first coming in, was Sold at 3-15-0 pr Bushel; but so many people flocking down after it, all the Spring and Summer; that almost every Vessel that came in, rose on the price, 'till it currently went 5-10-0 & Some for 6£ a Bushel.

When the Spring and Summer came on, both Rich and poor, amongst us in general; were all buyers of provision: and by the Spring many of our good farmers, were almost Destitute of Corn & Meat: so that had not Providence wonderfully Appear'd for us, by Sending provisions from other places; it Seems, many people must have perished of Hunger and want.

Also it is worthy of remark, that God wonderfully Supply'd the wants of Abundance of people, Especially in the Upper Towns, by Sending remarkable quantity of Shad, and other fish, up Merrimack, & other Rivers, in the Spring of the year; which was a vast help to abundance of people: for Meat was as Scarce in the Spring, as Corn; and people had not Money to purchase food: but many good Estates-Men, were oblig'd to hire Money, to procure provisions this Summer and Abundance of poor people were obliged to live almost without food, much of their time: Some Nothing but a little Milk, & Milkporage, and a few Berrys and Apples &c Just to preserve Life: and it is Said, Some, in Some places have Died for want of food: but Certainly many are so feeble, they are Scarcely able to work, even amongst us.

I would also remark, that after we had with much

Difficulty plow'd our ground, and gotten our Seed into the Earth; we were many ways more threatned with Scarcity, than the last year: for the worms Seem'd as if they wo'd devour almost every green thing: they eat almost all our flax, & Beans, & Pease; and abundance of our Corn: Many planted over again, especially Beans; and they were again almost all Eat; so that Scarcely any Beans, Pease or flax is raised this year: Abundance of Corn planted over again, and again eaten up; also many Petatoes Eaten, Gardens Pumpkins &c wholly Eaten up & Ruined.

Also a most Distressing Early Drought came on in the Month of May 1762, Exceeding that of the last year: for we had but little rain in the Spring, not enough to Settle the ground after the frost went out.

And the drought was so Sharp, and grass dried up so fast, that people began to Mow what little Hay they had, in June: and it is thought we had not more than half, or two thirds the Hay we had last year, and it was Sold for 120 & 130£ a Ton old Ten^r: & Salt Hay 80£ in the Marsh.

And altho' the Drought was so Sharp, that we were ready to think we Should have little or no English Corn; yet it grew Strangly; and we had a pretty good Crop; Especially Winter grain.

The Drought Continued so long, that Indian Corn Stalks dried up, and it was thought, after the Middle of August, we Should have little or no indian Corn; for much of it was quite dead.

further I wo'd remark, that in August it Seem'd as if the Almighty, was Determined to Destroy us Not only by Scarcity & want of food; but by most terrible fires in Many places in the Country; more Especially at Epping, Brentwood, & also many other places further Distant. Neighbouring Towns were oblig'd to go & Assist in

Stoping the progress of the fires; and 'tis Said 500 people wo'd meet together for that end; and watch the fires Night & Day: for it Seem'd as if the Country would all be burnt up; the face of the Earth being exceeding dry; and terrible winds enraged the fires, in a most Distressing Manner; so that many Buildings, fields &c were entirely laid wast and Destroy'd.

But Notwithstanding the most awful and Melancholly Aspect that was on things, even after the Middle of Augst when the Pastures were so Burnt up; and also the fields; that 'twas tho't the roots of the grass were so killed, that it wo'd not come too again in Some years: and our indian Corn Seem'd past recovery; and we Expected Nothing but a much more Distressing Scarcity the Ensuing, than we had this year; yet I Say, after all these most Melancholly Appearances, the Almighty Appear'd for us, and on the 18th Day of August, Sent a plentiful rain, follow'd by Seasonable weather, which Remarkably Renew'd the face of the parched Earth; Recovered much of our Indian Corn; so that Some people had a Comfortable Crop; and 'tis tho't there was in general more Corn in the Country, than there was last year, and I believe there is in general, more than half a good Crop.

And grass grows remarkably; so that Cattle which were pretty poor in the Drought, came to be good Beaf; and Beaf is plenty, & generally good, this fall.

And what is further remarkable; we have a vast help this fall, by a verry Unusual great Quantity of Acorns and Nuts; by which much More good Pork is fatted this fall, than was fatted by Corn last fall: and but little Corn is given to Swine this fall. And Many people gather'd abundance, to keep their Swine on in the winter, which is a great Saving to Corn.

I have remarked Sundry other things in my Journal,

which for want of time & room, I must omit here.
— 'tis verry Healthy.

10 Persons Died this year.

1763

See the note about Sleding below.

We have a third hard difficult Winter Successively;
Deep Snows, & difficult passing; Hay Scarce, 120£ a
Ton.

a verry Wet Summer; much Hay cut; but mean &
flashey & Sold for 20£ a ton — a Midling Crop of
English grain; tho' hurt by Meldew, or Rust. — a good
Crop of flax — Also of Indian Corn — plenty of Syder 5
or 6£ Barrel at Portsm°. Abundance of Spanish Peta-
toes. — and tho' every thing has been Scarce 2 years
past; yet now everything is verry plenty this fall, Except
Money; which is verry Scarce. Note. the Begining of
March 1763, the Snow was so Deep, there was no pass-
ing, Except on Snowshoes — and about the Middle of
the Month, there was Such a Crust on the Snow, that
People Rode & Sleded over fences, and any where they
wanted to go; about 10 Days.

9 Deaths this year.

1764

a Comfortable Winter, & provisions plenty; tho'
Beaf is Dear, 6 or 7^s a lb. Corn 3£ a Bushel; but this
Summer by reason of the Scarcity of Money, Beaf has
fell to 4^s a lb — we have a verry Unfruitful Summer the
Shortest Crops of Corn, Indian & English, that ever I
knew; being Eaten by worms, & planted over again, is
verry backward; & Early frosts kill'd abundance of it.
Hay Sold at Portsm° for 20£ a Ton old Tenor.

15 Deaths this year.

1765

a hard Cold Difficult Winter, Deep Snows & Difficult passing as ever was known. Corn Scarce, Beaf Plenty, 4^s lb this fall old Ten^r. — a verry good Crop of Corn & Hay this Summer. Hay 20£ a Ton. Corn 3£ Bushel.

The Land is in great Commotion by reason of the Stamp Act. Mobbs & tumults about it are frequent.

Money Scarce. — Cattle have fell in the prices Near half in 2 years. — a genral time of Health.

10 Deaths this year.

1766

A Moderate Winter; and as Plentiful a Crop of all the fruits of the Earth this Summer, as ever I knew. Corn Plenty at 3£ old Ten^r a Bushel Beaf 4 Coppers, Some 3. Poltry 5. Mutton 4. Pork 6. Health peace & plenty.

15 Deaths this year.

1767

Midling Winter, and in the Summer, a pretty Short crop of Hay. Plenty of Indian Corn, for 50^s old Ten^r a Bushel; and in no Demand at the Market for 2 years past.

Duties laid on Glass, Tea, Paper &c. at home; makes Uneasiness here. Money Scarce is the general Complaint.

23 Deaths in Town this year.

1768

a Moderate Winter; and not a verry fruitful Summer. — An Army & Fleet Sent over to bring us into Subjection &c — Meeting House Built.

16 Deaths.

1769

Verry Cold weather after the Midle of Jan. this Winter; which held more than a Month; and froze harder than has been known for Many years. People pass'd from Portsmouth with Sleighs & teams over Newbury & Charlestown ferries; to Boston on the ice. we had this Summer a good crop of Hay & Corn, which was much wanted. — This Summer Corn was so Scarce in the New Upper Towns, that ('tis Said) a man wo'd fall an Acre of thick Trees, for 1 Bushel of Meal — Beaf plenty this fall for 3 Coppers lb.

20 Deaths in Town this year.

1770

Pretty Moderate Winter — a terrible Drought in the Summer; so that about the Middle of Aug^t there was but little prospect of a Crop of Corn. Likewise many Worms in the Spring Eat the Corn verry Much: and in the Summer a verry Uncommon Sort of worm, Call'd y^e Cankerworm Eat the Corn & Grass, (Especially in y^e Upper Towns) all as they went above ground: which cut short the Crops in Many places verry much: but they Did not Continue long: and after the rain on the 18th of August, the Corn came on, so that Some people had near a Midling Crop: but in general 'tis Short. — and a Short Crop of Hay which is Sold in the Winter for a Jo a Ton. Corn about 3/6 a Bushel Beaf 3 Coppers a lb.

16 Deaths in Town this year.

Note. Mar. 5, 1770. 4 Men were kill'd in Boston by the Kings Soldiers Quartered there in time of Peace: this is Call'd the Boston Massacree.

1771

we have an open Winter; Several great freshets which Carried away many Mills Bridges &c. Hay Scarce. in

the Summer English Corn Cut Short by Meldews. A Midling Crop of Hay & Indian Corn — Corn Sold this fall 3^s Beaf 4 Coppers. — we have verry Hot weather this Summer.

The Baptist Scheem prevails in Many places; they have Set up a Meeting House in this Town in June last: and ordained Dr Shepherd their Minister in Sept.

21 Deaths this year.

1772

a hard Winter, and Difficult passing; held late and backward in the Spring: the Latter part of the Winter we had verry Drifted Snows, which laid in Drifts till the latter End of April. — we had Some Sharp Droughts in Summer. A Slender Crop of Corn; it being green & backward: Midling Crops of English Corn & Hay. An Uncommon Wet fall; verry great rains & freshets, carrying away Mills Bridges &c — A great plenty of Syder this fall, Sold for 3 or 4 Shillings a Barrel at Portsm^o.

13 Deaths this year.

1773

A Comfortable Winter, & much good Sleding. — in the Summer a good Crop of Hay — a good Crop of English grain, which grew almost wholly without rain; the Drought holding till the begining of July.

we had a good Crop of Indian Corn, verry Sound.

what is most Remarkable this year, is the great Tumults about the Duty on Tea, Sent here by y^e E India Company; 342 Chests of it being thrown into the Sea at Boston, on the 16 of Dec.

11 Persons Died this year.

1774

a favourable Winter, and fruitful Summer, Except in our Upper Towns, where Indian Corn was Cut Short by

the Drought & Squirrels &c — This year the Port of Boston is Shut up; and Ships of War, & Armies of Men, Sent to Boston to Enforce the Brittish Acts. — a Continental Congress met at Philadelphia in Sept.

13 Deaths this year.

1775

A Moderate Winter; and in the Summer, a Short Crop of English Corn & Hay: a good Crop of Indian Corn, tho' all the fruits of the Earth were much threatened to be Cut off by an Early Drought.

But the Most Remarkable occurrences of this year is, the Most Unnatural Civil War, Between Great Brittain and America; which began on the Memorable 19th of Apr. 1775, in a Battle at Lexington: and increased & Continued, by Raising larg Armies, & fortifications against Each other: Battle at Bunker Hill Burning Charlstown, Casco Bay &c &c all which I have not time or room to Mention — in Short, the Continant are in the Utmost Confusion and Distress, and know not what to do. — Every place on the Sea Coasts, are putting themselves in the best Posture of Defence they Can. And Thousands of the Inhabitants of Boston & other Towns; that were Allow'd to remove; have remov'd into the Country, in the Utmost Distress; not being Allow'd to take much of their Effects with them: Boston is almost Ruin'd.

11 Deaths this year.

1776

A pretty Comfortable Winter. — and in the Summer but a Small Crop of English Corn & Hay: and a good Crop of Indian Corn. — Provisions plenty; and this part of the Country, has been Supply'd with provisions, wholly of their own Raising; for none Co'd be bro't by Water, because of y^e War.

We have had Another Distressing year on Account of the Civil War: and the Regulars have greatly prevail^d by taking Canada, & Defeating our Army there: and our Fleet on the Lake: also taking New York, Long Island, a Considerable part of the Jerseys: and Hows Army proceeded Almost to Philadelphia.

24 Deaths this year in Town.

1777

Not a hard Winter, and but little Sleding. A good Crop of Hay; & a Midling Crop of Corn, Indian & English.

This year has been Remarkable for the most Amazing Sink of our Paper Money.

The Begining of this year a Regulating Act was pass'd in our General Court; Setting Corn at 3/6 pr Bushel, and other things about that proportion: Notwithstanding, but little Notice was taken of the Act; and within a few Months, Corn was Sold 3 or 4 Dollars a Bushel, Rum 10 Dollars, & more, a Gallon. Mollasses 40^s a Gal. Sugar 4^s lb. and every thing at Such a Rate, and Altering so fast, that we know not how to trade.

This year the War has been verry Distressing; The Regulars took Possession of Philadelphia, and of Ticondaroga &c &c. But Gen^l Burgoine and his Army Surrendered to us. Many Lives lost in the War, this year.

This year Many People are Enoculating for the Small Pox, in one place and Another.

12 Persons Died in Town this year.

1778

A pretty Close Winter; & but little good Sleding a pretty Short Crop of English Corn and Hay, and a pretty good Crop of Indian Corn. — Many People

Especially in Seaport Towns, Suffer very Much for want of Provisions.

our Currency Continues to Sink Amazingly, which make it Extreemly Difficult trading & Living.

Corn this fall is Sold for about 6 Dollars a Bushel; But Soon got to 8, 10, 20, and, before the year come About Some Sold ('tis Said) for 50 or 60, Dollars a Bushel, and So Scarce, they might get any price they Ask'd And Many People Suffer'd Amazingly before the Harvest Came about in 1779. And tis Said Some have Died for want of food in the Eastern parts. Scarcely Any Syder made in the Country in 1778.

17 Deaths.

1779

A pretty Close Winter; Several remarkable Deep Snows, toward the latter end of March — Hay verry Scarce.

A Midling Crop of English Corn & Hay — much New Wheat Rais'd & Sold for 4 Bushels of Indian Corn for 1 Bushel. a Remarkable great Crop of Indian Corn, through the Country; Notwithstanding this fall people in Seaport Towns, are ready to perish for want of food for people Seem to have Such a poor Esteem of paper Money, that they will not carry in their provisions (tho' plenty) for it. — The Convention of this State Met this fall, & Set the price of Corn 15 Dollars pr Bushel Beaf 4^s Rum 21 Dol^s pr Gal. Molasses about 15 Dol^s Sugar 12^s Butter 12^s Coffe 18/ Tea 6£ pr lb &c, most things about 20 fold, and when that was done, Nobody wo'd Sell any thing, but little while, at those prices; and people were almost in a Starving Condition, in the lower Towns: so that they Soon broke over the Stated prices, & many Articles Soon Doubled & Some trebled, & no bounds observed. Corn 30 or 40 Dollars,

Beaf 2 Dol^s lb & more. Pork 3 or 4 Dol. Rum 60 Dol. Gal. &c &c. Syder plenty at 20 Dollars Barrel. — The Penobscut Expedition fail'd this Summer.

13 Deaths.

1780

This year has been Remarkable on Many Accounts, which as they are of a Publick Nature I think worthy to be observ'd.

We had the Most hard Difficult Winter, by reason of Violent cold weather, begining Early in the year; tedious Storms of Deep Drifted Snows, and Difficult passing, even from Neighbour to Neighbour, in Case of Sickness or otherwise, ('tis Said) that ever was known by any Person now Living. — The violent weather began about the 13th of Dec. 1779, and Continued about Nine weeks; in all which time there was not more than a Day or two, So moderate as to thaw on the Suney Side of a House: and the Snow So Deep & Drifted, that People could not possibly keep the Roads open; tho' it was a Considerable part of their Business to break them with oxen and Shoveling by men, untill they were quite Discouraged, and gave up the point; and Endeavoured to pass (tho' with great Difficulty) on the top of the Snow, and through fields, on Rivers, and any where that they could get along. — Many Suffered for want of Wood; and were obliged to cut down Apple trees, and other Trees that Stood near the path, for firewood. Many oblig'd to haul Wood, & go to Mill on handsleds &c.

the Cold weather so froze up the Water, that People were put to great Difficulty for want of Meal in most of our Towns far and Near; Mr Pottles Malt Mill Supply'd many People grinding with 2 Horses for Double toll.

The Roads were so Block'd up with Snow, that the

Members of the General Court, as well as other People, were oblig'd to travel on the River, the greatest part of the way, from Portsmouth to Exeter, for a long time.

the bad traveling held in many places, till the latter end of March: and the begining of April it was so cold, that there was Some pretty good Sleding on the top of the Snowbanks.

we had a Cold backward Dry Spring, & Hay Scarce. — we had Several Sharp Droughts in Summer, which Pinch'd y^e fruits of the Earth pretty much: But in general, we had about a Midling Crop of Indian & English Corn and Hay: but by reason of the badness of the Money & People, Hay is Sold at Portsm^o for 1000 Dollars a Ton, and at Newbury & Southward, for much More.

Corn has been verry plenty & Cheap all this year; and much old Corn is left in the Country at Harvest, & Sold for 50 Dollars a Bushel which is allow'd to be the Cheapest article of Country produce Amongst us.

This year there has been a Remarkable Demand for Siberian Wheat for Seed. And the principle part of it that ever has been Rais'd in these parts before this year, grew in Stratham & Newmarket; and it having a Name for yielding great increase Many People came from almost all parts, far and near after it for Seed: in the begining of the year the common price was 4 Bushels of Indian Corn for 1 Bushel of Wheat; but the great Demand for it made it rise to a Prodigious price before Seedtime; Some Sold for 8 Silver Dollars a Bushel & Some more and no Bounds observ'd either by the Buyer or Seller, as to price: but much of it being Sow'd this year, & a Considerable quantity Rais'd (tho' it did not yield as it had before done) it fell in the price this fall to 2 Bushels of Corn for 1 Bushel of Wheat, & Some Sold for more, if they co'd get it.

I wo'd observe, that much of this Wheat was as Smutty, as the price they gave for y^e Seed.

The Next thing I wo'd take Notice of, is the Continued Depreciation of our Paper Money, which I Suppose has Sunk three quarters of its Vallue, within about one year: and its Sinking Vallue is now become so common, that but little Notice is taken of it.

in the beginning of this year, our Money was in Such poor Credit, that Scarcely any Body in Town or Country, wo'd Sell any thing for it: and the common way of trading was Swaping and Bartering one thing for Another: And Such persons in Seaport towns as had Nothing but paper Money to procure Provisions were near Starving: and Silver Money began to be more in Use; and before the end of the year, is as plenty as Paper Money and has Depreciated about one third of its Vallue: and the Common Exchange is about 75 or 80 Paper Dollars for 1 Silver Dollar: but what Many People call the old Way of Dealing is calling a paper Dollar, about Equal to a Copper; and indeed Many things there is about that proportion in our own produce: But in English Goods which (tho' Scarcely any has been to be Bo't Since the War) are now pretty plenty, but so Extravagantly Dear, that a paper Dollar won't bye so much of them, as half a Copper wo'd before the War.

In the latter end of this year, Paper Money is again (by reason of Exceeding high Taxes) in verry good Credit, (at the Rate it passeth) and no body can get enough of it, Scarcely, to Answer their Demands.

The generality of Country produce runs high, viz. Beaf & common Mutton 4 or 5 Paper Dollars pr lb. Mutton verry fat has been Sold at 6 Dollars lb. Butter 12 Dol^s Cheese 8 Dol^s.

West India goods are verry plenty & Cheap, compar'd

with other things, Rum about 80 Dollars pr Gal. Mollasses about 50 Dol. Sugar the last Summer was 10 Dol^s now 8 & Some 6 Dollars pr lb. Tea 90 Dol^s & Some 100 Dol^s.

Abundance of Syder Made & Sold at Various prices.

I know of no great things done in the War this year, Except the Brittons taking from us, the Valluable Town of Charlstown in South Carolina: and our taking by privateers, Considerable quantitys of English goods &c — Note. the late warm Disputes between Whig & Tory, are now but little heard of.

But the Most Remarkable Occurrence in Providence this year, is a verry Surprizing Dark Day and Night on the 19th of May it being so dark from 10 or 11 o'Clock in the forenoon, 'till 3 or 4 in the Afternoon, that People were oblig'd to Dine by Candle light, which Caus'd great terror in the Minds of abundance of People.

Also terrible Hurricanes in the West India^s &c.

Note. the Baptists persuasion increases verry much, Especially in our Upper Towns.

we have a general time of Health.

16 Deaths in this Town this year.

1781

We had a pretty favourable Winter; but little verry Cold weather; Considerable Snow and rain, and Changable. weather. — Much good Sleding. Abundance of Corn & grain brought down out of the Country. — Provisions verry Plenty. West India goods plenty and Cheap. — English goods verry dear. — a time of general Health. Hay verry Scarce in the Spring, Sold for 4 & 5 Pistereens a Hundred — the Spring Wet & backward.

a pretty good Crop of Hay this Summer; though Worms Eat considerable of it in the upper Towns.

we had a terrible Drought in August; which with the Rust & Meldew cut off our English grain (especially Siberian Wheat) verry much: and a Considerable deal of our Wheat is so blasted, that it was not Reap'd. — Indian Corn (Especially in the upper Towns) is verry Short.

we have a great plenty of Syder; which is the 3rd plenty year we had Successively.

But what is most Remarkable this year, is the Sudden unexpected total Dissolution of our old Emission Paper Money, which was in good Credit & great Demand (at about 75 paper Dollars for 1 Silver Dollar) all the Winter and Spring, 'till about the 20th of May, all at once come to Nothing; and no body would take it for any thing: Except the Court order'd that the Constables Should take it for Rates that was out, 'till a certain Day they Set, for that purpose, which was but verry Short. — and the New Emission passeth but little better, and hard Money is imediately become almost the whole medium that is passing, and that verry Scarce.

What is most remarkable in the War this year, is the Surrender of Gen^l Cornwallis and his whole Army in Virginia, to Gen^l Washington and the Allied Army.

10 Deaths this year.

1782

We had a pretty cold Winter after y^e 20th of January; Deep Snows, good Sleding in the path, but no turning out. a verry wet Spring, which prevented many people in the Woods from Burning their ground to Plant, which makes corn Scarce amongst them. — In July came on a terrible Drought, which Continued verry Distressing until the Month of october: Cattle were ready to perish in the pastures for want of feed and Water; and Some people turn their Cattle into their

fields, which is but little better; their being but little fall feed, they come to Hay a Month or two Sooner than Usual: Wells & Brooks are uncommonly Dry.

But what is most Remarkable this year is, our Summer Grain, Especially Siberian Wheat is almost intirely cut off by an Uncommon Meldue or Rust; together with a terrible Drought: so that I can't learn that there is Scarcely a Bushel of good Wheat Rais'd in all our lower Towns, within 20 or 30 miles of the Sea: But in the Upper Towns, at Cohoss, Sambontown, & in most of the Upper Towns are plenty of Rain & great Crops of Grain; which is bro't down in the Winter & Sold at great prices; Indian Corn is sold in the Winter for 10 & 12^s pr Bushel; Butter 2^s pr lb, Sugar 1^s Mollasses 6^s Rum 8^s pr Gallon; & Every thing Exceeding Dear Except Beaf, which is generally Sold this fall at 3^d pr lb.

We had a pretty good Crop of Hay; & Some had good Winter Rye; But in general a Short Crop of Indian Corn throu' the Country; But little Syder this fall; and many orchards are Destroy'd by Worms.

Money has been plenty this Summer & fall, Bro't here by the French Fleet, which came to refit y^r Ships. Nothing Remarkable in the War this year. a Remarkable time of Health throw the Country.

— Deaths in this town.

1783

The most Remarkable Occurance of this year, is the Ratification of a Treaty of Peace between great Brittain and America; after a Distressing Civil War of Eight years.

We had a pretty broken Winter; and a terrible Scarcity of Corn and Provisions in the Summer: and if the War had Continued, it is probable many People must have perished for want of food: but after the happy

Peace was Declar'd provisions were brought from the Southern States; and we had a plenty, tho' verry Dear; corn was Sold at 10 or 12^s a Bushel before the Peace and Scarce to be Bought at any Rate and 9^s after the Peace. — we had a Comfortable Crop this Summer, both of English & Indian Corn, & Hay, a verry great plenty of Sause, and all provisions this fall plenty of Syder 9 & 10, & Some 12^s a Barrel at Portsmouth.

The 9th of Aug. there was a Considerable Frost in Spots, almost throu' the Country, which Kill'd a Considerable deal of Corn. a General time of Health.

16 Deaths.

1784

We had the year past a verry hard Close Winter and backward Spring: a pretty fruitful Summer: a plentiful Crop of Hay — Middling Crop of Corn, both Indian and English — old Corn has been this Summer Exceeding plenty for 3^s a Bushel; which is the Common price this fall for old and New Corn. — we had a Considerable Drought this Summer — Worms Eat many Orchards.

A time of great health & Peace; & plenty of all kinds of provisions; and of English & West India goods, and pretty Reasonable.

We had this fall terrible Freshets, which Carried away abundance of Mills Bridges & other Buildings; and bro't down abundance of Logs, & other Stuff, in Merri-mack River; and did much Damage in y^e Country.

14 Deaths.

1785

We had a Close Winter, Especially after January; when the Snow was Exceeding Deep & Drifted, & Difficult passing, as almost ever known — verry Cold and backward Spring; Scarcely any Spring work done 'till the latter end of April: then grass comes on & looks

verry likely & we had a great Crop of Hay, & a Midling crop of Winter Rye & indian Corn — a time of great health peace & plenty of everything but Money, which is Extreemly Scarce; & but few people incline to pay Debts. — what is most remarkable again this year is an Uncommon Rain & Freshet on the 21 & 22nd of oct, which did Abundance of Damage through the Country; Carrying away Mills, Bridges, Lumber, Buildings, Creatures, Corn &c &c the like never known preceding that the last fall.

17 Deaths.

1786

We had this year, a comfortable Winter; pretty backward Spring: not much hot weather in Summer, a good Crop of Hay: Midling Crop of Winter Rye and a Midling Crop of indian Corn.

But a remarkable Dry fall; verry Difficult getting Meal; and Difficult getting Water for Household Use; Wells being generally Dry; people are obliged to hall their Water from Brooks: and after the weather grew Cold in Winter; to put it in Cellers, to keep it from freezing for Daily Use and Drive their Cattle a great way for Watering we had Several Violent cold Driving Storms of Snow the begining of December & Difficult passing.

Note. The Canker worm has Spoil'd many orchards Several years past: and with them & Cold Easterly winds in the Spring (as is Suppos'd) Destroy'd our apples, So that Scarcely Any Syder is made this fall.

Money Continues to be Exceeding Scarce Scarcely any to be got for Any thing — No Body pretends to pay Debts, Except in Cattle & other Commoditys.

a great Clamour for Paper Money to be made, a Mob appear'd At Exeter to enforce it, & Dispersed by y^e Melitia.

great uneasiness thro' the Country Under Public Debts & Burthens Complained of, not only in this State but Massachusetts, is frequent Mobbs; & by them, Courts are prevented from Sitting; & Melitia Sent out in that State to quell them &c.

10 Deaths.

1787

We have had this year, a pretty Comfortable Winter, — a pretty Slim Crop of Corn, both Indian & English — about a Midling Crop of Hay.

Nothing verry remarkable this year, a general time of Health, Peace & Plenty: — a Difficult time for want of Money; verry little Business or Trade Carried on, on that Account; and Abundance of People, Tradesmen & others, have little or Nothing to Do; and know not how to get a living: the Wheels of Trade & Business, Seem to be almost quite Still.

16 Deaths.

1788

We have had a Midling Winter, pretty Deep Drifted Snows: a pretty Cold Wet Spring & Summer, a Midling Crop of Corn, Indian & English. — a great Crop of Hay. — This year many People Tar their Apple trees to prevent the worms; and Some have found benefit thereby — Money remains verry Scarce, & Business Dull — the New Constitution is this year Adopted; and Many people are hoping for Relief from their Difficulties thereby.

Hay in the Sumer was about 4 or 5 Dollars a Ton at Portsm^o But in the Ensuing Winter ('tis Said) Some People co'd not get 3 Dol^s.

The worms have Eat orchards verry much; and Some People Tars their Trees.

4 Deaths in Town this year.

This Winter has been the Most Agreeable Winter, that ever I Knew; but little verry cold weather; and yet full cold Enough for good Sleding and Business: and the most Sleding, Slaying, & other Such Business done this Winter, that ever I knew in any Winter; for the 28th of Dec 1788 there came 8 or 9 inches of Snow & Hail, which all froze together like a Solid Body of ice, which lasted all Winter, to Sled upon; and wo'd bare Cattle out of the path & in the Woods; So that there is no difficulty in turning out of the path, or in the Woods with a load; no Drifted Snows; but when the path began to wear up, by the Abundance of passing; there wo'd Come 2 or 3 inches of Snow frequently, and Mend it.—abundance of provisions Bro't down out of the Country & Sold verry cheap; Indian Corn Some 3^s & Some 2/6 pr Bushel; Rye 3/6 & 4^s & Wheat 4/6 & 5^s a Bushel: Beaf 15^s to 18^s a Hund^d & a great Plenty of Every thing, Except Money; which is almost laid Aside in Trading, which is Carried on Chiefly by Bartering: and generally if a Man Byes Land he gives a Note to pay in Cattle & the like. — a Remarkable time of Health, as well as peace & plenty.

And although Provisions have been Uncommonly plenty as above-mentioned; yet about June, they began Suddenly to be Exceeding Scarce in Vermont, and most of the upper Towns; many tis Said, ready to perish for want; and Some that bro't it Down last Winter and Co'd not Sell it; Stored it; now come down & carry it home for their own Use: and Abundance of people come down to buy Corn; many of whom were Sellers last Winter — a pretty poor Summer for feed. about a midling Crop of Hay & Corn: in the uper Towns much Corn was Kill'd by a frost the last of August, and about that time Such Multitude of Grasshoppers, as Eat almost every green thing, Especially in the Uper Towns. —

this fall an Universal ail like a Violent Cold, call'd the influenza goes throu' the Country; & Some Died. — this fall Corn 3^s Beaf 15^s a Hundred. Hay in Summer about 3 or 4 Dol^s in the Winter 7 or 8 and in the Spring 10 Dollars a Tun & Exceeding Scarce.

8 Deaths.

1790

We had this year, a Comfortable Winter: not much verry Cold weather (Except 1 week in February) nor verry Deep Snows; but abundance of Remarkable good Sleding and Sleighing — Hay Exceeding Scarce, through all parts of the Country; 10 Dollars a Ton among us. much Corn given to Cattle to try to Save their Lives, but Many Died notwithstanding: and People were put to great Difficulty to get their Springs work done — a backward Spring; & pretty wet Summer; which kept Indian Corn so backward; that People were afraid we Should have but verry little ripe Corn; but the frost holding off verry late this fall; Corn ripened pretty well; and there is generally a good Crop of Indian; and a great Crop of English Corn, through the Country in general: and but a Midling Crop of Hay. Plenty of Syder 5^s or 6^s Bar^l. Abundance of potatoes and much Beaf Killed this fall, but pretty dull & low; 14 or 15^s a Hundred. Corn 3^s a Bushel this fall — and 'tis thought, that taking one thing with another, it is as plenty a year for all the fruits of the Earth, and the Necessarys of life; as ever we do know.

a general time of Health, as well as peace & plenty throu' the Land.

16 Deaths in this Town.

1791

We had a pretty hard Winter; Deep Drifted Snows, & difficult passing. Especially turning out of the path: but

Notwithstanding there has abundance of Buisness been done by Sleding, especially by Sleighing: Families Removing into the Country; Visiting friends: bringing down Country produce: Carying up Salt, goods, &c &c So much of Such like Business Seldom or never known to be done in any Winter before — We have had but little high Winds or Storms; and tho' there was much Snow on the Earth; it went away without much Land flood, this Spring; but Soak'd into the Earth as it Melted: and we had not a Storm of Wind or rain this Spring. Hay & Corn, verry plenty, Corn 3^s a Bushel, & Some less. Syder 5 or 6^s a Barrel at Portsm^o this fall — Hay 7 or 8 Dol^s a Ton this fall & begining of Winter — We had hardly a Midling Crop of Hay or English Corn: but an Uncommon good Crop of Sound indian Corn, throughout the Country.

Abundance of Beaf Kill'd, and Ship'd off, at a pretty good price, for Money; 16^s & 18 & Some 20^s a Hundred; and taking every thing together, it is Counted as fruitful a year for all the fruits of the Earth, as is generally or ever known: and things fetch Money better than they have, Several years past; and 'tis generally Said, Money is plenty Enough.

it has been a great time of Health, as well as peace & plenty But we have had an Army in Ohio Country which have Met with a dreadful Slaughter by the indians, of 5 or 6 Hundred, Some Say 11 or 12 Hundred Men, and in the Island of Hyspaniola, a terrible Destruction by the Negroes, &c.

14 Deaths in this Town.

1792

We had a verry cold difficult Winter: and altho' I have Lived to see many Winters of difficult passing, yet I think this rather exceeds them all; the Snow being

deep & verry much Drifted; and Weather Exceeding cold; notwithstanding many people do drive through & over the Drifted Snows, & do a great Deal of business.

This Summer we have a verry Extensive Drought, Said to reach from Nova Scotia to South Carolina, and as far as we could hear; which made feed for Cattle verry Scarce, both in the Summer and fall; and much affected and cut Short our Indian Corn: and Corn which has this year till July, been plenty for 3^s a Bushel; at once Jumps up to 4^s and the frost holding off favourably; we had more Corn than was Expected; though taking the Country through it is a Short Crop; and Early in the fall was Sold current at 4/6 a Bushel: but English corn was pretty good: and also a midling Crop of Hay. farmers produce this fall fetches 'tis Said, the highest prices, & quickest Money, ever known: and Money (by reason of the many Banks &c) is verry plenty for any Sort of produce; all which runs high, this fall viz. indian Corn 4/6. Hay about 10 Dol- a Ton at Portsm^o & 13 at Newbury. Beaf from 16^s to 22^s a Hund. Butter 10^d or 12^d a Pound; & Cheese from 6^d to 9^d. Sugar 11^d. Molasses 3^s 4^d Cotton 2/6 to 3^s.

The Small Pox has been throu Boston this fall
14 Deaths in this Town.

1793

We had the year past, a pretty open Winter; verry changable weather — in February, 5 freshets in 10 Days.

the latter part of the Spring being verry Dry & Cold, nothing Seem'd to grow — and in May came on a verry Distressing Drought; verry little feed for Cattle and after Corn was planted, the ground was so Dry that it could not come up; but lay Dry in the ground for 3 or 4 Weeks; and abundance of People planted over again,

'till the latter end of June, with Corn & Potatoes & Beans &c And people Seem'd to think we Should have neither Corn nor Hay this year; & began to kill the Calves they Rais'd, & Sell off their Stock as fast as they could; and the Drought holding 'till the latter end of June, cut off our Hay, so that we had Scarce half a Crop in general:

But about the 26 of June we had a Comfortable Rain which bro't up the most of our Corn of both plantings; And almost all the fruits of the Earth grew remarkably. And we had a pretty good Crop of English Corn & as great a Crop of indian Corn throughout the Country (tis thought) as ever was known: also the greatest Crop of Apples, Syder, Potatoes, Beans, Pumpkins, and almost all the fruits of the Earth (Except Hay) ever known. And notwithstanding the great plenty; there was a quick Market at a good price; Syder a Dollar a Barrel, Corn $4/6$ a Bushel, Potatoes 1^s Butter 10^d to 12^d. Cheese 6 to 9^d &c. By reason of the Scarcity of Hay, Abundance of Beaf is Kill'd, & Sold about 20^s a Hundred, & Hides 25^s, &c &c. memd^m — Hay this Summer went Generally 20 Dol^s a Ton.

with us a great time of Health — But in Philadelphia this fall, a terrible fever carried off 4031 Persons.

The War in France &c is verry Distressing.

5 Deaths in this Town this year.

1794

the Winter past was pretty moderate favourable weather in general; so that Hay was plentier & cheaper this Spring than it was last fall. — we have had a Second Dry Summer: not more than half a Crop of Hay in general; and not more than there was last year in the lower Towns; tho' better up Country: Sold about 12 Dol^s a Ton. — our English Corn is verry light, by reason of

Mildew and Drought: and up Country much of it Kill'd by a Frost on the 15th of June at Night.

our indian Corn Harvest is pretty Comfortable, and Potatoes midling, Sold at Portsm^o 1^s a Bushel. Cabages verry Scarce: and Syder & Apples verry Scarce. Syder 2 Dollars a Barrel; corn 4/6 a Bushel, & almost every thing runs Exceeding high; Beaf 20^s to 25^s a Hund^d and in the Winter much higher, Hides 30 to 35 a Hund^d and Some More. Hay Exceeding Scarce in the Spring 1793; Sold at a Dollar a Hundred, & Scarcely any to be bought, & much Corn given to Cattle, and People put to great Difficulty to get their ox work done in the Spring 1795, not only by the Scarcity of Hay, but the Exceeding Wetness of the ground, and repeated frequent rains, and backwardness of the Season — Money plenty both Silver and Bank Notes. — a terrible Dry time in Wells, the Summer & fall Anno, 1794, almost every body are obliged to hall Water a great way for family Use, and cattle ready to Suffer for want of both feed & Water in Pastures.

Butter Sold from 10^d to 12^d a Pound; Cheese 7^d to 8^d and every thing Exceeding high.

A remarkably Moderate fall; Especially in December was abundance of work done; Such as Plowing, Sowing, Diging Rocks, making Wall &c &c particularly mending fence Blown Down by a high Wind Nov. 20. — a general time of Health throu' the Country. — Terrible Desolations in France &c by Distressing Wars.

12 Deaths in Town.

1795

A pretty Moderate Winter, the 3rd Moderate Winter Successively — but little Sleding — and tho' we have had 2 verry Dry Summers Successively; this has been verry Wet, and verry Hot. —

Near a midling Crop of Hay which was verry Scarce last Spring, Sold for a Dollar a Hundred: and the Spring being wet & backward people were put to difficulty to get their work done.

We have had as plentiful a Crop of all the fruits of the Earth this year, as is generally known. — Abundance of Syder, Especially in the upper Towns; Many Apple Trees broke down: and pretty plenty in the lower Towns; Sold for a Dollar a Barrel the first making at the Bridge; and afterwards 10 or 12 Shillings. — Corn 4 & 5 and Some 6^s a Bushel — Rye 7 or 8^s Wheat about 2 Dol^s Potatoes a pistereen or more; Beaf 5 Dol^s a Hundred, and all farmers produce runs verry high & quick Money. Butter about 1^s Cheese 9^d pr lb. Molasses 4 & 4/6 Gal. Sugar 9^d lb &c.

Terrible Destructive Wars in Europe Continue.

This year there Seems to be a factious reviling Spirit amongst People against their Rulers and Against President Washington in particular, who formerly has been remarkably beloved by People almost universally.

9 Deaths in Town this year.

1796

The Winter past has been in general Comfortable weather, and may be called the 4th Moderate Winter Successively: little Snows so as to mend the Sleding & Sleighing, of which there has been abundance up and down the Country, carrying produce & goods forth and back all this Winter. Hay plenty in the Spring and in no Demand, much old Hay left in Barns, in Many places.

The Summer has been verry fruitful; an Extraordinary great Crop of Hay all over the Country: and a pretty good Crop of Corn in general, English & indian. Potatoes & Sauce plenty, as well as Syder & everything else; and yet prices of every thing runs verry high;

Money both Silver & Bank Notes being verry plenty. Corn by the 100 Bushels in the fall at the Bridge 5^s Bushel and much Sold at Portsm^o for a Dollar a Bushel; Rye 7 or 8^s a Bushel — Potatoes 1/6. Syder 10 to 12^s Barrel Butter 9^d to 1^s lb Cheese 7^d to 8^d lb. Sugar 9^d to 1^s lb and Molasses 4 or 5^s gallon. Labor Exceeding High 15 to 20 Dol. a Month &c &c everything Exceeding high. a general time of Health. 14 Deaths in Town.

The Coming Winter Sits in verry Early & Severe from the 23 of Nov.

The French Nation Seem Disposed to quarrel with our Government.

1797

The former part of last Winter was verry cold Setting in Early: Deep Snows: verry dry in Wells and Brooks; difficult getting Water for Cattle & House work &c the latter part open.

We had a fruitful Summer in general, a good Crop of Hay & of indian Corn amongst us: hardly Midling English. Abundance of potatoes, 1^s & pistereen a Bushel. Up Country 'tis Said indian Corn is not so good; and English verry light. — Syder verry Scarce this fall, 3 Dollars a Barrel — indian Corn Sells for about 4/6 & 5^s a Bushel — Beaf plenty & low, about 4 Dol^s a Hundred — Hides plenty & cheaper than they have been. — Rye Sells for 8^s a Bushel — Hay in the Spring 1798, verry Scarce, especially up Country.

Mice, last Summer, did abundance of Damage in Sambontown & many other places up Country, by Eating Corn after it came up, & planted over Several times: Destroy'd near all the Crop of Many people, both indian Corn & English; and a great part of their Hay &c So that Hay in the Spring was in general verry Scarce, especially up Country.

21 Persons Died this year in Town.

The french refuse to receive our Envoys; and interrupt our Commerce verry much: and there Seems to be great danger of War.

People complain Money grows Scarce.

Merchants goods run high, Molasses 4/6 Sugar 1^s.

1798

This Winter has been pretty Close weather Hay pretty Scarce, Especially up Country.

a terrible Drought came on the begining of July, but little rain for near 3 Months, and Exceeding hot weather Night and Day, for a long time — a pretty Slim crop of Hay round about us; and but little English corn, but up Country pretty good Crops, & plenty of rain — amongst us cattle were ready to perish in pastures in the Drought and but little better in fields: many people obliged to feed their Cattle in August & Sept.

our indian Corn in many places verry Slim; but Some is near Midling Crops.

old Corn plenty this Summer.

Syder verry plenty 6^s or 7^s a Barrel at Portsm^o potatoes verry Small in general.

The fever & Disentary has raged verry Much, almost all over the Country this fall; especially in Philadelphia, New York, Boston & many other of our principle Cities & Towns.

Corn is Sold this fall & Winter about 4/6 a Bushel at Portsm^o.

20 Deaths in Town.

1799

We had a tedious long Cold Winter, begining about the 17th of Nov^r & Continuing near 6 Months; near all which time Cattle were Confined to our Barns: and Hay Exceeding Scarce in every part of the Country, as we

hear by the News papers, and Many creatures have Died.

Corn is pretty plenty, tho' much has been given to our Cattle to keep them alive.

The Spring is verry Cold and backward: many people don't finish planting till June.

about a Midling Crop of Corn & Hay.

But little Syder made amongst us: Sold about 2 Dol^s a Barrel at Portsmouth. — Corn about 4^s at the Bridge; & more at Portsm^o. Potatoes about 1/6 a Bushel Butter 1^s Cheese about 8^d pr lb.

There Appears to be a Considerable Concern on the minds of many People of a Religious Nature in Many parts of this Land, as we hear: and particularly in this Town; where about 30 persons have been Aded to mr Miltimores Church within about a year.

a general time of Health, 6 persons Died in this Town this year, viz 4 men, 1 woman, & 1 Child, in 1799.

Memd^m Gen^l Washington Died Dec 14, 1799, Aged 68, greatly Lamented.

The following entries were made on the last pages of this Digest:

—— Ordained Persons at Rye Nov 3, 1736 —

mr Cotton June 19, 1734.

mr Fogg Nov 23, 1737.

mr Gookin oct 31, 1739.

mr Coffin Nov. 14, 1739.

mr Webster Aug 12, 1741.

mr Gilman March 3, 1742.

mr Langdon Feb 4, 1747.

mr Woodbridge Odlin Sep 28, 1743.
 mr McClintock Nov 3, 1736.
 mr Adams Mar 20, 1747.
 mr Rogers instaled Aug 31, 1748.
 mr Strong June 28, 1749.
 mr Bailey Sept 1757.
 mr Wingate Dec 14, 1763.
 mr Ewers Aug 9, 1764.
 mr Perley Jan 30, 1765.
 Mr Thayer Sept 17, 1766.
 Mr Hastings Feb 11, 1767.
 mr Marsh at Newbury oct 19, 1768.
 Dr Shepherd Sept 25, 1771.
 mr Adams instaled June 24, 1756.
 mr Haven May 6, 1752.
 mr Butler March 7, 1798.
 mr Sterns March 8, 1758.
 mr Ward for Plymoth July 10, 1765.
 mr Colby ——
 mr Coe Nov 1, 1780.
 mr Langdon Enstalled Jan 18, 1781.
 mr Porter at Rye Dec 29, 1784.

Comets Appear'd as follows —

Feb 5, 1737, Feb 20, 1742, Jan 1744, Apr 1748, Apr 29, 1759, Aug 1769, June 1770, Apr 6, 1766.

Note. the Comet in 1769 the tail was observed to be 20 Deg. in length and toward the latter End of its Appearance the Newspapers Say, the Tail was 75 or 80 Deg^s in length by curious observers.

Jan 9, 1771 mr Thomas Adams ordain'd at Stratham.

Earthquakes in the years following —

Oct 29, 1727, the great Earthquake.

Nov 18, 1755, a terrible one & March 2, 1766.

Feb 2, 1759 June 3, 1744.

Mar 12, 1761 & Nov 1.

Mar 3, 1771.

Oct 13, 1774.

Meeting Houses Rais'd as follows —

June 15 & 16, 1768. ours Raised.

June 14, 1769. Hampton falls.

May 28, 1771. Kensington.

June 4, 1771. our Baptist.

June 29, 1756. Greenland.

June 5, 1792. Newmarket.

a few Remarks in Wars —

Cape Bretton taken in June 1745.

The French forces that came with a Design to Destroy us, and landed at Chebucto — also the Pretenders Army all Defeated in the year 1746.

'tis Said 2 Indians were privately Kill'd in 1753, by Bowen & Morril: for which they were afterward imprison'd and taken out of prison by a Mobb.

1754. The French began to be troublesome about the Ohio & those parts: & Gen^l Braddock Killed in 1755.

We had a Bloody Battle at Lake George anno 1755. our Army took Gen^l Dieskeu.

in 1756, War was Declared Against France.

in 1757, our Fort William Henery on Lake George is taken by y^e French, & indians and Demolished.

in 1758, we took Louisburgh, St Johns.

in 1759, we took Niagara, Ticonderoga, Crown Point, Quebeck &c. Gen^l Wolf Killed.

in 1760, we had great Success in the War, Especially in the Reduction of Morial and the whole Country of Canada. on y^e 8th —.

in 1762, Jan 18th Spain Proclaimed War Against us —

TITLE TO SAMUEL LANE'S STRATHAM PROPERTY
SINCE 1741.

Samuel Lane, May 26, 1741–Jan. 16, 1784.

Jabez Lane, Jan. 16, 1784–April 3, 1810.

Joint Owners	{	Charles Lane, April 3, 1810–Jan. 27, 1824 (sold his share to George).
		Edmund James Lane, April 3, 1810–Feb. 3, 1824 (sold his share to George).
		Andrew Colcord Lane, April 3, 1810–July 29, 1839 (the date of his death).
		George Lane, April 3, 1810–Jan. 23, 1883.

Joint Owners	{	Henry Smith Lane, Jan. 23, 1883–Aug. 25, 1899.
		Amanda Melvina Lane, Jan. 23, 1883–March 26, 1909.

Edmund Barker Lane, March 26, 1909–Dec. 5, 1924.

Abby Frances Lane, Dec. 5, 1924–July 27, 1925.

Anna Mathes Lane, July 27, 1925–Nov. 19, 1932.

Wallace Rutherford Lane, Nov. 19, 1932.

Martinico Surrendered to us Feb 12. France takes Newfoundland, June 27. Havanna is Surrendered to y^e English, Aug. Newfoundland Retaken by y^e English, Sept 18.

Apr. 19, 1775. The Bloody Civil War began in a Battle at Lexington and Concord.

June 17. Charlestown Burnt, & Battle at Bunker Hill.

Oct 18. Casco Burnt.

Aug 26, 1776. Battle of Long Island.

1777. This year the Regulars took possession of Philadelphia, Ticonderoga &c also this year General Burgoine & his Army Surrendered to us.

about the Middle of March 1776, the Regulars left Boston: & June 18, 1778, left Philadelphia.

—— Deaths ——

mr Gookin Aug 25, 1734.

—— Tuck May 29, 1738.

—— Toppan Nov. 28, 1739.

mr Rust mar 20, 1749.

Esq^r Leavit Feb 19, 1754.

Rev'd Mr Odlin. Nov 22, 1754.

Col Wiggin Jan 23, 1756.

Rev'd mr Whipple Feb 17, 1757.

Rev'd mr Bailey Sept 12, 1762.

Rev'd mr Gookin oct 1766.

Rev'd mr Woodbr. Odlin Mar 1776.

Madam Rust Jan 31 1777.

Sept 18, 1742. This Day 6 Persons were Buried in Stratham of y^e throat Ail.

Some Antient Marriages —

—— *Wiggin Jan 4, 1737.

—— Emery May 10, 1738.

* The omission of first names is due to defective manuscript.

—— Page Nov 21, 1738.
 —— Bachelder Nov 23, 1738.
 —— Clough Feb 16, 1738.
 —— Webster Nov 29, 1739.
 —— Coffin Jan 29, 1740.
 —— Page Nov 13, 1740.
 mr Gookin Jan 1, 1741.

Ordinations of Ministers —

mr Upham. Dec 9, 1772.
 mr Mansfield oct 9, 1776.
 mr McClure Nov 13, 1776.
 mr Thurston Nov 2, 1785.
 mr Miltimore Feb. 1, 1786.
 mr Langdon, Newington Jan 9, 1788.
 mr Rowland Exeter June 2, 90.
 mr Remington Candia oct 20 1790.
 mr Hidden Sep. 12, 1792.
 mr Allen Wolfbor^o oct 25, 1792.
 mr Brown Exeter Nov 20, 1792.

Ordinations —

Rev'd mr Buckminster ordained at Portsm^o Jan 27, 1779.

Mr Shaw ordained at Kensington Jan 30, 1793.
 Mr Holt ordained at Epping Febr 27, 1793.
 Mr Tome ordained at Newmarket oct 22, 1794.
 Mr Pidgin ordained at Hampton Jan. 20, 1796.
 Mr Appleton ordained at Hampton Febr 22, 1797.
 Mr Beaty ordained at Salisbury June 28, 1797.
 Mr Abbot ordained at Hampton falls, Aug. 15, 1798.
 1800 Mr Alden ordained at Portsm^o with Dr Haven
 Nov 20, 1799.
 Oct 15. Mr Thirston ordained at Newmarket.
 Oct 22, 1800 Mr Stickney ordained at Raymond.

Nov 19. Henry Pottle by the Baptists Society was ordained.

Rev'd Josiah Prentice ordained at Northwood May 29, 1799.

Rev'd Ethan Smith Instaled at Hopkinton March 12, 1800.

Mr Flint ordained at Brentwood May 27, 1801.

Mr Greg ordained at Cape Elizabeth July 15, 1801.

Mr —— ordained at Northhill Nov. 18, 1801.

Some Remarks of Various kinds —

Two Women Hang'd at Portsm°. Dec 27, 1739.

Dow Hang'd May 8, 1755.

Ruth Blay Hang'd Dec 30, 1768.

Elisha Thomas Hang'd at Dover June 3, 1788.

Mr Whitefield came into y^e Province and Preached first at Hampton oct 1, 1740.

Bening Wentworth came Governor, Dec 12, 1741.

Jn^o Wentworth Came Governor June 13, 1767.

Governor Bening Wentworth Died oct 16, 1770.

in Sept 1757, we had verry unwholesome weather, a Dull heavy Air, a Sort of foggy Misty Air; the Sun & Moon looking Red like Blood; much as the Sun Usually looks in a Drought. And 'tis a verry Sickly time.

in Sept 1767, 'tis Said the Sea is Surprizingly Alter'd in its Colour, and looks of a thick Whey Colour.

The Great Bridge from Stratham to Newmarket made passable on June 4, 1773.

a Remarkable Hurricane at Salisbury Aug 14, 1773.

a Tempest y^t blew Down Capt Wiggins Barn July 31st 1767.

Great Numbers of Men went down & took the great Guns out of the Fort on great Island Dec 16, 1774.

The Raleigh Launch'd, May 17, 1776.

about the years 1775, & 1776, Such a Spirit of *Opposi-*

tion prevailed between Whig & Tory, that 'twas almost Dangerous for a Man to Speak his Mind.

Febr 1, 1801 an Earthquake betwen 3 & 4 o'Clock afternoon.

in March 1776. Mr Pain Wingate Remov'd from Hampton falls to Stratham.

Memd^m he is 50 years old May 25, 1789, being Born May 25, 1739.

THE INSCRIPTION ON SAMUEL LANE'S GRAVESTONE

DEACON SAMUEL LANE

departed this life,

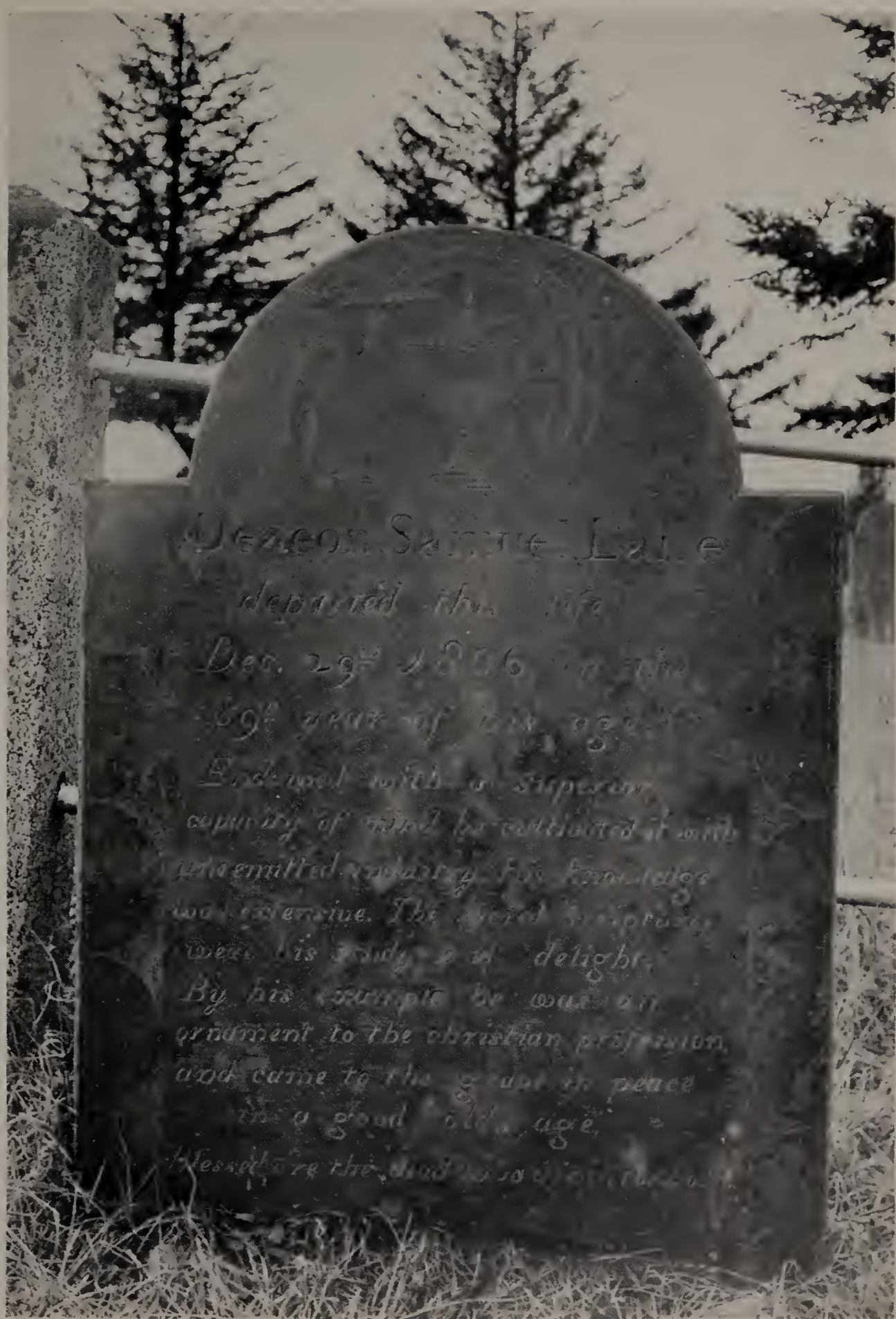
Dec. 29th 1806. in the

89th year of his age.

Endowed with a Superior capacity of mind, he cultivated it with unremitted industry. His knowledge was extensive. The sacred Scriptures were his study and delight.

By his example he was an ornament to the christian profession, and came to the grave in peace in a good old age.

Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord.



SAMUEL LANE'S GRAVESTONE

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